

**NORTH CAROLINA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE**  
**Office of Archives and History**  
**Department of Cultural Resources**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

**Gwyn Avenue – Bridge Street Historic District**

Elkin, Surry County, SR0667, Listed 8/28/2007

Nomination by Laura A. W. Phillips

Photographs by Laura A. W. Phillips, January 2006



Gwyn-Chatham-Gwyn House, 121 Gwyn Avenue



400 Block of North Bridge Street, looking west





Richard Gwyn and Margaret Ray Harvison Smith House, 151 Gwyn Avenue



West side of Gwyn Avenue, looking northwest

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

**1. Name of property**

historic name Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District

other names/site number N/A

**2. Location**

street & number Roughly bounded by North Bridge Street, Mill View Road, Market Street, and Church Street not for publication N/A

city or town Elkin vicinity N/A

state North Carolina code NC county Surry code 171 zip code 28261

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination        request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets        does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant        nationally        statewide X locally. (        See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official

Date

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property        meets        does not meet the National Register criteria. (        See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby certify that this property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

       entered in the National Register

       See continuation sheet.

       determined eligible for the  
National Register

       See continuation sheet.

       determined not eligible for the  
National Register

       removed from the National Register

       other (explain):

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Name of Property

Surry Co., NC  
County and State

## 5. Classification

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

☒ private  
☒ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

☐ building(s)  
☒ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>124</u>	<u>29</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>8</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>125</u>	<u>37</u>	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)  
N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**  
N/A

## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>single dwelling</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>multiple dwelling</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>secondary structure</u>
<u>RELIGION</u>	<u>religious facility</u>
<u>FUNERARY</u>	<u>cemetery</u>
<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>

### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>single dwelling</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>multiple dwelling</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>secondary structure</u>
<u>RELIGION</u>	<u>religious facility</u>
<u>FUNERARY</u>	<u>cemetery</u>
<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>

## 7. Description

**Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne  
Colonial Revival  
Bungalow/Craftsman

**Materials** (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick  
roof Asphalt  
walls Wood  
Brick  
other Wood  
Brick

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Name of Property

Surry Co., NC  
County and State

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

☒ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

☐ B removed from its original location.

☐ C a birthplace or a grave.

☐ D a cemetery.

☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

☐ F a commemorative property.

☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Community Planning and Development  
Architecture

### Period of Significance

1891-1955

### Significant Dates

N/A

### Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

**Architect/Builder** Ludlow, Jacob Lott, Civil Engineer  
Barber, George Franklin, Architect

## Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

### Previous documentation on file (NPS)

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

☐ previously listed in the National Register

☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register

☐ designated a National Historic Landmark

☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary Location of Additional Data

☒ State Historic Preservation Office

☐ Other State agency

☐ Federal agency

☐ Local government

☐ University

☐ Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Name of Property

Surry Co., NC  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approx. 60

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing  
1 17 513070 4011920  
2 17 513600 4011980

Zone Easting Northing  
3 17 513750 4011640  
4 17 513750 4011120  
X See continuation sheet.

## Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

## Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Laura A. W. Phillips, Architectural Historian, Consultant for Town of Elkin  
organization \_\_\_\_\_ date April 11, 2007  
street & number 637 N. Spring Street telephone (336) 727-1968  
city or town Winston-Salem state NC zip code 27101

## 12. Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

### Continuation Sheets

### Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

### Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

## Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Multiple owners  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 1

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

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### DESCRIPTION

#### Architectural Classification, cont'd.

Classical Revival  
Tudor Revival  
Other: Period Cottage  
Other: Minimal Traditional

#### Materials, cont'd.

**Foundation** - Stone  
**Roof** - Metal  
**Walls** - Stone  
          Vinyl  
**Other** - Stone

#### Narrative

The Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District is located in Elkin, a town of approximately 4,300 residents in the southwestern corner of Surry County, North Carolina. A residential district, it extends northward from the Downtown Elkin Historic District (NR 2000). The Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District possesses 162 resources composed of 153 buildings, eight structures, and one site. One hundred three resources are primary, while fifty-nine are secondary. All but five of the primary resources are residential: ninety-four houses and four apartment buildings. The five non-residential primary resources include a cemetery, two churches, and two small commercial/office buildings. Garages account for most of the secondary resources.

Covering approximately sixty acres, the district includes all or portions of twelve city blocks. Most of the district follows the 1891 plat of the Elkin Land Company property, as developed and drawn by Winston-Salem civil engineer Jacob Lott Ludlow. With the exception of Spring Street, which runs in an east-west direction, the district's four other streets—Mill View Road, Gwyn Avenue, North Bridge Street, and Church Street—run in a north-south direction. Only the short Mill View Road along the eastern edge of the district and the 200-300 blocks of North Bridge Street are straight. Church Street, North Bridge Street north of Church Street, Gwyn Avenue, and Spring Street all incorporate curves that relate largely to the topography of the land.

The district has a hilly topography, with the elevation generally rising as the district moves north from the Yadkin River and Elkin's downtown. However, within this general pattern, there are many



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 2

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

---

variations in elevation. For example, in some areas, such as the 300 block of North Bridge Street, land on the east side of the street is much higher than the land on the west side. Small ravines are also intermingled with the higher land, such as in several areas bordering the older sections of Hollywood Cemetery at the northern end of the district, between the rear of lots on the east side of the 200 block of Gwyn Avenue and the rear of lots on the south side of East Spring Street, and behind the lots on the east side of the 300 block of Gwyn Avenue. Other than the topography, and the fact that the district has a generous supply of trees, scrubbery, and lawns, there are no other natural features of note.

Manmade elements in the district consist, first of all, of the streets laid out according to the Ludlow plan, as well as the adjoining plats for Chatham Park (East Spring Street), Hendrix Heights (West Spring Street), and North Elkin (the 500 and 600 blocks of North Bridge Street.) Significant manmade elements also include the district's buildings and structures, sidewalks, numerous stone retaining walls, and Hollywood Cemetery with its planned system of straight and curved roads and gravestones. Additionally, the district contains three parking lots (two for churches and one for an apartment building), two wooded lots where houses once stood, and five vacant lots, two of which once contained houses.

The Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District is a concentrated, cohesive group of historic buildings and one historic site that is distinguished from its surroundings due to its particular historical development and physical character that differ from the areas surrounding it. North of the district are newer sections of the cemetery, followed by woods. Northeast of the district, along North Bridge Street, are a combination of small businesses and vacant lots. There are also some houses that probably date from the 1920s through the 1940s, but they are too detached from the district to be included in it. East of the district, between North Bridge Street and East Spring Street, are streets with a combination of small-to-medium-sized houses dating from the first half of the twentieth century that have been heavily remodeled and some houses of more recent vintage. From East Spring Street south to Market Street, the district is bordered on the east by the property—woods, fields, and industrial buildings—owned by Interface Fabrics Inc., formerly Chatham Manufacturing Company. South of the district is Elkin's commercial downtown. The east side of the 200 block of North Bridge Street, between East Spring Street and East Market Street, was excluded from the district because today it is the site of modern buildings and vacant lots. West of the district, west of Church Street between West Market Street and Old Virginia Road, are the Richard Gwyn Museum at the rear of a long parking lot, heavily remodeled or modern houses, and fields and parking areas of the Elkin school system. West of 227 West Spring Street are remodeled and more recent houses. Finally, just beyond the district to the west of the 300 block of Church Street are the administrative offices for the Elkin school system and woodlands.

Lot sizes in the district vary, although for the most part the depth of lots coincides with approximately half the depth of a block. Buildings usually are set in the middle or toward the front of lots. Initially, when the Elkin Land Company plat was drawn, lots were drawn with widths of approximately twenty-five, fifty, and one hundred feet, with the exception of the Richard Ransom Gwyn



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 3

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

---

homeplace on the west side of the 100 block of Gwyn Avenue. It was approximately 500 feet wide, today encompassing the properties at 121, 131, and 151 Gwyn Avenue. However, two or more lots often were sold together, creating the current variety in lot sizes. Other than Hollywood Cemetery, which developed just north of the Elkin Land Company plat, the largest tract in the district, which also includes some land that was outside the 1891 plat, is that owned by First Baptist Church at the southeastern corner of the district. While most lots are rectangular in shape, some take on wedge, trapezoidal, or other shapes to fit the curve of the street as well as to respond, in several cases, to other geographic factors. Except for the lots on the west side of the 100 block and part of the 200 block of Gwyn Avenue and on the east side of the 200 block of Church Street, properties in the district are arranged in a fairly dense pattern, with houses set close to each other. Houses in the district directly face the street, except for the Richard Gwyn Smith House at 151 Gwyn Avenue, which is set back from the street and at an angle to it, so that its orientation is to the Alexander Martin Smith House at 131 Gwyn Avenue, to which it was initially tied by family ownership. Rows of houses, frequently along entire blocks, largely follow the same facade setbacks from the street, although these can vary from being very close to the street with small front yards to being set with more generous spacing from the street. Because the district developed within a planned framework, there has been little change in the spatial relationships of buildings to each other and to their environment since the original houses were erected on single or combined lots. Sanborn maps from 1915, 1925, and 1942 show this to be so.

Some of the district's overall character can be seen in the scale, proportions, materials, decoration, and design quality of its primary resources. With the exception of First Baptist Church at 110 Gwyn Avenue, buildings in the district are domestically scaled. However, within that domestic scaling, the houses range from modest, one-story, mill house-type dwellings, like those at 128, 144, and 155 East Spring Street, to houses of substantial size and sophistication, such as the Alexander Martin Smith House, the Gwyn-Chatham-Gwyn House, and the Richard Gwyn Smith House, all in the 100 block of Gwyn Avenue. Most houses fall in between these extremes. Approximately thirty percent of the buildings in the district are two stories in height. The rest are one or one-and-a-half stories. Houses typically are three bays wide, though several are larger, and they are fairly evenly divided between those that are symmetrically configured and those that are asymmetrical. A majority of the 102 buildings (sixty-eight percent) are of frame construction. Thirty-three percent of these retain various types of original wood siding. However, some not counted in this category because their main body has replacement siding, retain wood shingles on their upper level. Sixty-seven percent of the district's frame buildings have replacement siding. Of these, seventy-six percent have vinyl siding, seventeen percent have asbestos-shingle siding, and seven percent have aluminum siding. The district's primary buildings also include twenty-five percent that are brick, six percent that are stone, and two percent that are stuccoed. Interestingly, nearly two thirds of the brick buildings are concentrated in the area north of Spring Street and west of Gwyn Avenue. Overall, this area experienced a slightly later period of development than did other areas of the district. With the exception of the Mason Lillard House at 105

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 4

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

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Gwyn Avenue, the oldest (pre 1915) buildings in the district are frame. The Lillard House is brick, and when it was built ca. 1910, it was one of only six brick houses in Elkin.

Buildings in the district exhibit a wide range in terms of level of decoration. Unquestionably, the district's most ornate house is the 1890s Alexander Martin Smith House at 131 Gwyn Avenue. This Queen Anne-style house is replete with turned, sawn, shingled, and stuccoed decoration. At the other end of the spectrum are the simple, no-nonsense, mill-house-type dwellings and the 1940s-1950s Minimal Traditional brick houses that are largely devoid of decoration. The district's other buildings fall between these extremes. The late-nineteenth/early-twentieth-century houses of Queen Anne-style influence often have some turned and sawnwork decoration focused on the porch. Neo-Classical or Colonial Revival-style buildings from the 1910s through the 1950s carry classical detailing, again focused on the porch. The bungalows of the 1910s through the 1930s exhibit Craftsman-style details that range from modest to fully-developed Craftsman stylistic devices and motifs. The quality of design and the level of workmanship present in the district's buildings range from good to excellent.

The district is stylistically diverse, possessing examples of a variety of architectural styles that were popular in America from the late 1890s through the mid 1950s. These styles include the Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Neo-Classical Revival, Craftsman bungalow, Tudor Revival, Period Cottage, and Minimal Traditional.

The Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District developed over a little more than half a century—a period that spanned the years from 1891 to 1955. Despite the fact that most of the district was part of the 1891 Elkin Land Company development, within this area building activity followed a rather natural progression. After a somewhat slow start, construction picked up during the 1910s, 1920s, and 1930s, and then tapered off during the 1940s and 1950s. Once built, most structures remained to the present, although a few were lost to fire or to new construction. With the help of Sanborn maps, an analysis of the district's current buildings shows that approximately sixty-three percent had been erected by 1925. A breakdown reveals that three percent were built prior to 1900, thirty-two percent were erected between 1900 and 1915, and twenty-eight percent were added in the decade between 1915 and 1925. An additional twenty-five percent were constructed between 1925 and 1942, nine percent were built in the decade after the end of World War II, and only three percent were built post 1955. The oldest buildings are located in the 100-200 blocks of Gwyn Avenue, but those that followed were distributed fairly evenly throughout the district.

The district's buildings are almost all in good to excellent condition. The only building known to have been moved is the Gwyn-Chatham-Gwyn House at 121 Gwyn Avenue. However, that move took place in 1911, on the same property, and consisted of turning the ca. 1872 house ninety degrees to face Gwyn Avenue rather than southward toward Market Street and the Yadkin River. At the same time, the house was updated in the Neo-Classical Revival style. Some houses in the district have been remodeled, but for the most part, they still convey a strong sense of the period in which they were built. The most common remodeling has been the replacement of original wood siding with vinyl or aluminum siding.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 5

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

However, this has not significantly detracted from the architectural character of the district as a whole. Many houses in the district have been well maintained since they were built. Of the 162 total district resources, seventy-seven percent are contributing and twenty-three percent are noncontributing to the historical and architectural character of the district. Of the 103 primary resources—102 buildings and one site—all but four are contributing. The four noncontributing buildings include three that were built after the end of the period of significance and one that has had character-changing alterations. Of the thirty-seven noncontributing resources, thirty-three are secondary buildings and structures. Consequently, the Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District possesses excellent historic integrity in terms of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

### Inventory List

The following inventory list provides basic information for all properties in the Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District. Included are each property's name, current address, date or approximate date of construction and major alterations (when known), contributing or noncontributing status, and a summary of each property's physical character and history. Historic names—based on the first known owner or use of a building or on a building's most historically significant owner or use—are used whenever possible. Buildings, sites, structures, or objects that add to the historic associations or historic architectural qualities for which the district is significant, were present during the district's period of significance (1891-1955), relate to the documented significance of the district, and possess historic integrity, or that independently meet the National Register criteria are contributing resources. Buildings, sites, structures, or objects that do not add to the district's historic associations or historic architectural qualities for which the district is significant; were not present during the period of significance; do not relate to the documented significance of the district; and due to alterations, additions, or other changes no longer possess historic integrity; or that do not independently meet the National Register criteria are noncontributing resources. Parking lots and vacant lots are listed in the inventory, but are not counted as either contributing or noncontributing resources.

The inventory list is arranged alphabetically by street name, with the east side of the street listed before the west side and the north side listed before the south side. For each street, properties are listed from lowest to highest address number.

Addresses and the contributing or noncontributing status of the district's primary resources are keyed to the accompanying district map. Survey files containing photographs, physical information, and historical data for district properties are maintained by North Carolina's State Historic Preservation Office in Raleigh.

Inventory entries are based on the on-site recording and research conducted by Laura A. W. Phillips from Fall 2005 through Spring 2006. Abbreviations for sources used are given in parentheses at the end of each inventory entry. The following is a listing of all source abbreviations, listed

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 6

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

alphabetically, with the exception that interviews are listed first, followed by other sources. Next to each abbreviation is the corresponding name of the person interviewed or the name of the source used. Complete citations are provided in the nomination bibliography.

### Interviews by Laura A. W. Phillips:

Brown	A. L. Brown
Dillon	Tom Dillon
Freeman	Dixie Freeman
Gregory	Marjorie Gregory
Hughes	Joanne Hughes
Key	Una Norman Key
Laffoon	Grace Laffoon
M. Mayberry	Matthew "Dick" Mayberry
Neaves	Margaret Neaves
Norman	Mary Norman
Phillips	Iva Lee Phillips
Salmons	Hugh Salmons
C. Smith	Claire Smith
R. Smith	Richard Gwyn "Dick" Smith Jr.
Stuart	Bonnie and Hal Stuart
R. Triplette	Ralph Triplette
W. Triplette	Walter Triplette
White	Ronny and Rexanna White

### Interviews by Richard "Dick" Smith Jr.

L. Mayberry	Louise Chatham Mayberry
Shores	Wilma Shores

### Other Sources

Canipe	Ruby Bray Canipe, <i>Early Elkin-Jonesville History and Genealogy</i>
CH	<i>Elkin 1889-1989: A Centennial History</i>
Deeds	Surry County Deeds
DEHD	Downtown Elkin Historic District National Register nomination
EBQ	Elkin Bicentennial Quilt



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7

Page 7

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

ELC Map	Elkin Land Company Map
Hickerson	Thomas Felix Hickerson, <i>Echoes of Happy Valley</i>
HSC-1	<i>Heritage of Surry County</i> , Vol. 1
HSC-2	<i>Heritage of Surry County</i> , Vol. 2
<i>Journal</i>	<i>Elkin Journal</i>
MMS	Martha M. Smith, Study List application for A. M. Smith House
Plat of CP	Plat of Chatham Park
SCAS	Surry County Architectural Survey files
SCC	<i>A History of Surry County Churches</i>
SM	Sanborn Company Maps
ST	Laura Phillips, <i>Simple Treasures</i>
TR	Surry County Tax Records
<i>Tribune</i>	<i>Elkin Tribune</i>
<i>Times</i>	<i>Elkin Times</i>
Waldrep	George Waldrep, "Elkin: The Evolution of an Industrial Town in the New South, 1877-1917"
WT	Downtown Elkin Walking Tour

## NORTH BRIDGE STREET (East Side)

### Elkin Presbyterian Church

Contributing building

300 North Bridge Street

1937; 1944; 1950; 1955; 1961

A Presbyterian congregation was formed in Elkin as a result of a series of services held at the Elkin Manufacturing warehouse in November 1892. The congregation erected a small frame church in the mid 1890s at the northeast corner of Market and Church streets. In 1936 the Presbyterian congregation traded its building and lot to the Pilgrim Holiness Church for a larger, vacant lot at the northeast corner of North Bridge and East Spring streets, plus \$1,000. The present brick church was erected and was dedicated on September 6, 1937. During the following two decades the church facilities expanded to the rear. In 1944 new Sunday School rooms were added, in 1950 a new education wing across the rear of the church was dedicated, and in 1961 five more Sunday School rooms were added. On February 13, 1955, a set of chimes, a new vestibule, and a new steeple were dedicated. The church continued to grow until the congregation determined that a new facility was needed. In 1989 construction began on a new facility on a lot previously purchased by the church on Hillcrest Drive. The new church building was dedicated on April 22, 1990. The Trinity Christian Center currently uses the former Presbyterian church building on North Bridge Street. Set on a terraced hill above the street, the Colonial Revival style church

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 8

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

is a one-story, red-brick structure with a front-facing gable roof. A brick corbeled cornice runs along the sides of the church, as do paired casement windows with paneled wood shutters and iron hardware. The gabled front vestibule, added in 1955, features a double-leaf, wood-paneled entrance with a lancet-arched transom, adding a Gothic Revival-style element to the building. The gable-roofed, brick, rear education wing runs perpendicular to the nave and, accommodating the upward slope of the land, is partially underground (SM; CH; SCC).

### **Nichols-Hall House**

Contributing building

310 North Bridge Street  
ca. 1930

The earliest known occupant of this one-and-a-half-story frame house was H. Grady Nichols, manager of the Elk Printing Company, which published *The Elkin Tribune*. Grady Nichols served as manager of the paper, while his brother, Walter E. Nichols (who owned a house—no longer standing—on Gwyn Avenue directly behind Grady Nichols's house), was editor. In 1936 the Clyde A. and Mano B. Hall family took occupancy of the house. Clyde Hall worked at the power plant at Chatham Mill; at the time of his death in 1989, he had attained the position of chief engineer at the mill. A long flight of steps leads up the steep hill from the street to the front entrance. The square house has weatherboard siding with beveled corners and a hipped roof with intersecting, wood-shingled, gabled dormers. The center-bay front entrance with sidelights is sheltered by a gable-roofed porch with grouped wood posts with lattice between the posts. The porch on the south side of the house repeats the use of grouped posts with lattice, but also has wood-shingled plinths and skirt. The gabled roofs of the dormers and porches all have overhanging, flared eaves with plain bargeboards that have circular notches at the ends. Windows have grouped nine-over-one or six-over-one sash (SM; Stuart; Laffoon; Canipe).

### **Manley Hodges House**

Contributing building

320 North Bridge Street  
ca. 1945

A steep flight of concrete steps leads to the front of this one-story brick dwelling. The Minimal Traditional house has a broad, side-gable roof with an intersecting front gable at the south end of the facade. Other features include metal casement windows, an offset chimney on the north side, and a shed carport—probably an addition—attached to the north side of the house. Manley Hodges was the first occupant (Stuart).

### **Tyson House**

Contributing building

324 North Bridge Street

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 9

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

---

ca. 1940

Historically associated with the Tyson family, the one-story, brick, Minimal Traditional house has a broad, side-gable roof, six-over-six sash windows, and an off-center front entrance marked by a small roof gable that is echoed by a small, gabled porch with slender posts and a segmental-arched ceiling. Chimneys are on the south side and rear of the house, and a gabled porch extends from the south side of the house. A steep set of steps leads up the terraced front yard to the house (Stuart).

**Garage**  
ca. 1940

Contributing building

Behind the house, with access from a rear alley, stands a one-story, German-sided frame garage/storage building (SM).

**Blanche Rogers House**  
330 North Bridge Street  
ca. 1920

Contributing building

The first known occupant of this house was Blanche Rogers; later it was the home of Rogers's nephew, Linville Norman. A steep stair of concrete and river rock leads from the street to the front of the house. The one-and-a-half-story frame dwelling features a side-gable roof, and pair of central interior chimneys, and asbestos-shingle siding. The three-bay facade consists of a central Craftsman door with a pair of sash windows on either side. A one-story ell extends from the rear of the house. The 1925 Sanborn map shows that at that time the house had porches across the front and on either side of the rear ell (SM; Norman; Laffoon; Stuart).

**Garage**  
ca. 1945

Contributing building

In 1925, a frame garage was located behind the south side of the house. Either it was moved, or a new garage northeast of the house was erected post 1942. The one-story, gable-roofed, weatherboarded frame garage has two bays facing south toward the house (SM).

### Wooded Lot

The home of Henry Dobson, an employee of Chatham Manufacturing Company and their political point-man in Raleigh, once stood on this site. Subsequent to the destruction of the house by fire, the site

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 10

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

---

grew into the present wooded lot (R. Smith).

**Schönhofen Optometry Building**  
346 North Bridge Street  
1961

Noncontributing building

Located across from where Church Street intersects North Bridge Street, this modern office building is oriented southward toward its parking area and with its end to the street. The one-story building has a flat roof, a combination of brick and wood-shingled siding, and a recessed entrance near the west end (TR).

### (Intersection with Church Street)

**Worth Graham House**  
416 North Bridge Street  
ca. 1920

Contributing building

One of several homes at the north end of the historic district originally owned by members of the Graham family, this was the residence of Worth Graham, a mail carrier. Facing west toward the junction of North Bridge and Church streets, the one-story frame bungalow is heavily shaded by large fir trees. The house features weatherboard siding with beveled corners, a front-facing gable roof with overhanging braced eaves, river rock chimneys, and nine-over-one sash windows. The offset front porch has river rock posts and skirt. A porch at the rear of the house was added between 1925 and 1942, but has since been enclosed. Its gable is sheathed with beaded boards overlaid with thin "half timbering." Stone steps lead from the street to the front walk of the house (R. Smith; SM).

**Garage**  
ca. 1935

Contributing building

South of the house stands a one-story, hip-roofed, frame garage (SM).

**W. M. Wall House**  
422 North Bridge Street  
ca. 1942

Contributing building

The 1942 Sanborn map shows the house "from plans." It replaced a two-story frame house shown on the 1925 Sanborn map. It was the home of W. M. Wall, a local jeweler. Although the one-and-a-half-story



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 11

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

---

brick house is relatively simple, it bears several signature features of the Period Cottage style: steeply pitched front and side-gables, a front chimney, and a Tudor-arched front doorway. Other features of the house include paired six-over-six sash windows, soldier-course lintels and water course, and an east-side porch (R. Smith; SM).

**Garage**  
ca. 1942

Contributing building

South of the house stands a one-story, weatherboarded frame garage whose entrance is on the east side. Though not indicated on the 1942 Sanborn map, it was probably built soon thereafter.

**Garage**  
ca. 1950

Contributing building

Southeast of the house stands a two-story brick building with a gable roof, three garage bays across the north side and paired windows on the second floor. The second-floor may have been used for an apartment, a workshop, or storage.

**Dixie Graham House**  
430 North Bridge Street  
ca. 1940

Contributing building

This was another of the Graham family homes at the north end of the historic district. Dixie Graham's work with the Town of Elkin was like that of a town manager (though that may not have been his official title). The two-story brick house is a large but simple expression of the Colonial Revival style. It has a broad gable roof, a chimney on the west side, and a three-bay facade with a gabled entrance porch with slender colonettes. Windows are six-over-six sash and are often grouped. A random-coursed stone retaining wall runs along the front and two sides of the yard (R. Smith; SM).

### (Intersection with Gwyn Avenue)

**Commercial Building**  
510-512 North Bridge Street  
1963

Noncontributing building

The one-story brick commercial building was erected on the east half of the lot that also contains the house at 376 Gwyn Avenue. A paved parking area spreads across most of the North Bridge Street side

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 12

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

of the lot. The building, which houses two businesses, has a flat roof, a shed-roofed canopy across the front, and a four-bay facade consisting of a pair of centrally placed glass doors flanked by two windows. Christine's Hair Designers currently occupies 510; Nationwide Insurance occupies 512 (TR).

### **Park-Reece House**

Contributing building

520 North Bridge Street  
ca. 1928

John Park, who with J. R. Johnson owned the Ford-Essex automobile dealership in Elkin, had this house built for his family around 1928. However, Park soon lost his business in the Depression and had to give up his new home, moving with his family to 228 Gwyn Avenue. W. F. Reece then purchased the house, and members of his family resided in it until around 2005. W. F. Reece was a partner in Mosely and Reece, wholesale grocers. The one-and-a-half-story-with-basement house is distinguished by its stone veneer exterior. The house has a steep side-gable roof with a gabled dormer on the right front and a shed dormer across the rear. A gabled wing projects from the left front of the house, encompassing an engaged entrance porch on the southwest side with segmental-arched openings. On the northeast side of the house is a stone porch with segmental-arched openings and a balustraded deck. Other features include stone chimneys on the northeast side and rear of the house and grouped windows with projecting stone sills. The upper-story windows have six-over-six sash while the first story and basement have replacement sash with one large lower pane and a narrow divided upper pane (SM; R. Smith).

### **(Intersection with Ridge Street)**

### **L. C. Couch House**

Contributing building

608 North Bridge Street  
1920

Elkin dentist Dr. L.C. Couch (1887-1953) was the original owner of this exceptional bungalow. According to Mrs. Couch, who continued to live in the house after her husband's death until 1984, the house was erected in 1920. (The 1925 Sanborn map does not show the house, but this was at the edge of the map's coverage and simply may not have been included.) Set back from the street on a large, tree-shaded corner lot, the house has a stone first story and a stuccoed upper half story. The broad, front-gable roof is intersected by smaller side gables. The overhanging eaves are braced. The house has both exterior and interior stone chimneys. An expansive front porch features a broad gable that echoes the roof above and extends around the southwest corner to form a hip-roofed porte-cochere. The whole is supported by tapered granite piers connected by a stone skirt of a different type of stone with a granite cap. Like the porch skirt, the exterior walls of the first story consist of a dark, rock-faced, striated stone

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 13

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

cut in an irregular manner and accented by granite details including window sills and keystone lintels, side window quoins, corner quoins, and a water course. Most of the grouped windows are nine-over-one sash. The multiple nine-light wooden tilt windows of the west-side gable establish a sleeping porch within. Within the main front gable, a group of sash and casement windows is strikingly positioned in a stepped manner to fit within the pitches of the main roof gable and the porch gable. The Couch House is now used as the Home Coming Bed and Breakfast inn (R. Smith; ST).

### NORTH BRIDGE STREET (West Side)

#### **Mitchell Apartments**

Contributing building

227 North Bridge Street  
1935

The apartment building was named for Louis Mitchell, its builder. During the 1920s he operated the Amuzu Theater for silent movies, and in the 1930s he operated the Lyric Theatre for talking movies. The two-story-with-basement brick building has a low hipped roof with round-arched ventilators, mostly six-over-six sash windows, and a symmetrical, five-bay facade. The center three bays of the facade project forward a window's width, and then the first-story of the central entrance bay projects forward a little more. Above the mansard-roofed entrance bay is a round window (R. Smith; CH; SM)

#### **Chatham-Parks House**

Contributing building

243 North Bridge Street  
ca. 1918

According to his daughter, after real estate developer George W. Chatham Sr. had been living for several years with his family in the house he built next door at 249 North Bridge Street, he built this house and moved with his family to it. Within a decade, Chatham sold the house to Ralph W. Parks, whose family lived there for many years. Parks was a road contractor who, in the 1960s, served as chairman of the local airport commission. The two-story frame house with replacement siding has a low hipped roof with hipped dormers, a south-side brick chimney, a bay window on the north side, and primarily six-over-one and nine-over-one sash windows. The most distinctive aspect of the house is the facade with its two-tiered engaged front porch. Although the facade is only two bays wide, the porch is divided into three bays by paneled posts. Other distinctive features of the porch are the paneled band between the two floors and, at the second-floor level, both a fancy sawnwood balustrade and decorative sawnwork brackets. The front entrance to the house is sidelighted; on the second-floor, two French doors are flanked by sash windows. Until at least the early 1980s, the nearly identical G. P. Dockery House stood just south of 243; the space where it stood now serves as the parking area for the realty business that currently occupies 243 (R. Smith; CH; SM; SCAS; M. Mayberry; L. Mayberry).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 14

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

---

### **Chatham-Shores House**

Noncontributing building

249 North Bridge Street  
ca. 1915

George W. Chatham Sr., a local real estate developer, built this large house where his family lived for several years. Thereafter, it was home for some years to the William Arthur Shores family. Shores was a horse trader, but at the time of his death in 1931, he also owned rental property in Elkin. The two-story frame house has a low hipped roof with intersecting pedimented gables above three slightly projecting bays—at the north end of the facade and near the rear of each side elevation. Windows have two-over-two sash. Until the early 1980s, the house retained its wood German siding and one-story, classical facade porch with Tuscan columns, plain balustrade, classical frieze, and gabled entrance bay. Since then the porch has been removed and the house has been wrapped in vinyl siding. Across the front of the lot is a stone retaining wall, and a flight of stone steps leads upward to the front walk (R. Smith, SM, SCAS; L. Mayberry; M. Mayberry; Shores).

### **Dick Grier House**

Contributing building

257 North Bridge Street  
ca. 1920

This large Craftsman bungalow was the home of Dick Grier, who in the 1920s and later, operated the Grier Grocery Store. It was known for its delivery service as well as for an extensive parcel post business for out-of-town customers. The one-and-a-half-story frame Grier House has a broad side-gable roof with an intersecting front gable, both with widely overhanging braced eaves. The peaks of the roof gables have a combination of paneling and louvered vents. While the first story is weatherboarded, the second story is sheathed with square-cut wood shingles. Various types of window sash are used. A broad, hipped roof porch with tapered wood posts set on a concrete skirt pierced by narrow horizontal openings stretches across the three-bay facade. In front of the house is a low stone retaining wall and stone steps (R. Smith; CH; SM).

### **Greenwood House**

Contributing building

261 North Bridge Street  
ca. 1910

Maude and Andrew Greenwood, sister and brother, lived here at least during the second quarter of the twentieth century and probably longer. In 1906 the Elkin Land Company had sold two lots at this location to J. D. (initials hard to read) Greenwood. In 1910, Greenwood purchased an additional, adjacent lot on North Bridge Street. These deeds suggest that house was originally owned by a member



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 15

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

---

of the Greenwood family. Andrew Greenwood owned an early automobile dealership in Elkin. Now converted to apartments, the one-and-a-half-story vinyl-clad frame house has a cross-gable roof with a row of three sash windows in each gable. A porch extending part way across the facade has curved ends, a gable defining the original entrance area, and replacement support posts. On the north side of the house is a bay window. Prior to the installation of the vinyl siding (post 1983), the house had a wide paneled frieze above the first-floor windows, a round-arch above the center window of the front gable, and a row of sash windows along the south side (R. Smith; Deeds; SM; CH; SCAS).

### **Welborn House**

Contributing building

269 North Bridge Street  
ca. 1915

During at least the 1930s, this was the home of the Dr. Welborn family (probably William R. Welborn, 1882-1943, and Corrie H. Welborn, 1884-1963). The one-and-a-half-story, weatherboarded frame house has a steep, truncated-hip roof with intersecting front and side gables and a gabled dormer on the front. Tall brick chimneys pierce the roof. The wraparound porch with Tuscan columns has been enclosed on the south side. Windows are two-over-two sash. Probably in the late 1940s or 1950s, a one-story sunroom was added to the north side of the house. It is surrounded by multiple six-over-six sash windows and has a balustraded deck roof (SM; R. Smith).

### **Garage**

Contributing building

ca. 1950

According to Sanborn maps, the one-story, two-bay garage at the south edge of the property was erected after 1942. It is a weatherboarded frame building with a front-facing gable roof.

### **Vacant Lot**

At least as late as the mid 1980s, the ca. 1914 home of W. S. and Mayme B. Sale stood on this lot. W. S. Sale was the New York salesman for Chatham Manufacturing Company. The house was nearly identical to the adjacent house at 289 North Bridge Street (SCAS; R. Smith; Deeds; ET).

### **A. L. Reves House**

Contributing building

289 North Bridge Street  
1914

In 1914 A. L. Reves purchased two lots at the southwest corner of North Bridge and Spring streets from

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 16

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

the Elkin Land Company. That same year, the Industrial Edition of the *Elkin Tribune* showed a photograph of the house, labeling it as the home of Mr. A. L. Reves. Reves was the secretary-treasurer and general manager of Somers and Company, a five-and-dime store. (J. A. Somers lived on the corner across West Spring Street from Reves.) Apparently the house was sold soon thereafter to a Mr. Cundiff, who held it for only a short time before selling it to W. Avery Neaves for \$2,500 and a saddle horse. Neaves had moved to Elkin from across the mountains at Grassy Creek, Virginia, and was a superintendent at Chatham Mill. He sold the house to Dave Brendle. Around 1945 Brendle sold the house to the Elkin Presbyterian Church, who used it as their parsonage until 1956, when they sold the house to the present owner, A. L. Brown. The one-and-a-half-story frame house is notable for its metal-shingle-covered steep hipped roof with multiple smaller gables intersecting the main roof on the front and sides of the house. A tall gabled dormer rises between the two front gables. The dormer and all the gables are lit by one-over-one sash round-arched windows. Tall brick chimneys pierce the two side slopes of the primary roof. The right front bay projects slightly from the rest of the three-bay facade. A hip-roofed porch carries across the facade. Its tapered wood posts set on brick plinths and with a connecting solid brick skirt are replacements of the original porch posts. One-story shed rooms project from the rear of the house. The house is now sheathed with vinyl siding (Deeds, R. Smith, *Tribune*; SM; Brown).

### Vacant Lot

The vacant lot at the southwest corner of North Bridge and West Spring streets appears to be the side yard of the house at 289 North Bridge Street. However, it is owned by the Elkin Presbyterian Church, who received the land as a gift from Jim Poindexter. The lot slopes down sharply from the two streets and has numerous trees located downhill from North Bridge Street (Brown; TR).

### (Intersection with West Spring Street)

**John A. Somers House**  
305 North Bridge Street  
ca. 1920

Contributing building

John A. Somers (1871-1931) was the original owner of this large and impressive bungalow. By 1910 he was operating a five-and-ten-cent store in Elkin; in 1927 Somers's store had branches in five nearby towns. The house was later divided into apartments, which it remains. The elaborate one-and-a-half-story dwelling has a red brick first story with yellow brick accents, a wood-shingled upper story, a broad gable roof with widely overhanging braced eaves, and pedimented windows that include nine-over-one, twelve-over-one, and fifteen-over-one sash. The expansive wraparound porch with tapered wood posts

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 17

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

set on brick plinths connected by a solid brick skirt extends beyond the north side of the house to form a porte-cochere. The projecting center entrance bay has a sunburst within its gable; above the entrance bay is an upper-story porch with tapered wood posts set on a wood-shingled skirt and a pedimented roof with a round-arched vent. Small dormers with pointed windows are attached to either side of the upper porch, sheltered by side extensions of the porch's gable roof. At the rear of the house are a large, hip-roofed dormer, a service porch, and an above-ground basement. River rock with grapevine joints line the steps down from the sidewalk, the driveway, and round planters on either side of the front walk (SM; ST; CH).

### **Ralph and Constance Triplette House**

Contributing building

311 North Bridge Street  
ca. 1940

The house is a simple, one-and-a-half-story, Colonial Revival frame dwelling. Its features include a steep side-gable roof, a shed-roofed dormer on the front above the center entrance, a chimney on the north side, and a three-bay facade. The central entrance bay is sheltered by an elliptical hood supported by square posts. A garage attached to the north side of the house ca. 1948 has a flat roof and a tilt door. Vinyl siding now covers the house. Ralph "Ace" and Connie Triplette operated the Bon Ton restaurant in downtown Elkin. Ralph later had three businesses that he ran simultaneously: Yadkin Finance, the American Motors dealership, and Reliance Loans (SM; R. Triplette; W. Triplette).

### **Claude A. and Daisy H. McNeill House**

Contributing building

317 North Bridge Street  
ca. 1925

This intact bungalow is a one-and-a-half-story frame dwelling with weatherboard siding on the first floor and wood-shingle siding on the upper half story. The house has a broad, side-gable roof with widely overhanging, braced eaves, off-center end chimneys of brick, and nine-over-one sash windows. A broad, front-facing gable sheathed in wood shingles and with braced eaves shelters the three-bay facade porch. It is supported on square brick posts and has a plain balustrade. Claude A. McNeill (1893-1968) moved with his family from Wilkes County to Elkin in 1925 to become the manager and secretary-treasurer of the Elkin Bottling Company. He was a member of the Surry County Board of Education for more than twenty years, served on the Surry County Draft Board for twenty-four years, and was a member of the Elkin City Board of Education. For a time he was a justice of peace in Elkin Township, and he was also a member of the local board of directors of the Northwestern Bank (SM; Laffoon; R. Smith; CH; DEHD; HSC-1).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 18

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

**Garage**  
ca. 1935

Contributing building

Southwest of the McNeill House is a one-story, single-bay, German-sided frame garage with a broad, front-gable roof.

**Charles G. Ashby House**  
321 North Bridge Street  
ca. 1920

Contributing building

The original owner of this one-story frame bungalow is not know, but by the mid 1930s it was the home of Charles G. Ashby, an employee of the North Carolina Highway Department. The most distinguishing feature of the low-lying house is its roof with its multiple clipped gables. Some of the gables, including those on the facade, have a lattice attic vent. Now covered with asbestos shingles, the house has a brick chimney on the north side, a three-bay facade with a central entrance and three-part windows consisting of a central twelve-over-one sash flanked by four-over-one sash, and a center-bay entrance porch with a clipped-gable roof and replacement ironwork posts. A projecting bay at the middle of the north elevation encloses what had been, at least until 1942, a recessed porch (SM; R. Smith; Laffoon; Stuart).

**Chatham-Holcomb House**  
329 North Bridge Street  
1936

Contributing building

This was one of many houses in Elkin built by developer and builder George W. Chatham Sr. As with at least two other houses in the historic district, 243 and 249 North Bridge Street, Chatham built the house initially for his family. It replaced a one-story, frame, L-shaped house that had stood on the lot. Prior to working as a developer, Chatham was employed by Chatham Manufacturing Company as a wool buyer. During the 1930s, he worked with the WPA. The house was later owned by Jones Holcomb. Synthetic siding now covers the one-and-a-half-story frame house, whose most notable feature is the ultra-steep side-gable roof that swoops forward at first-floor level on the south half of the facade, originally sheltering the entrance and a partial front porch. The south bay of the porch has since been enclosed to form a room. The entrance remains recessed between it and the north front projecting wing. Though much smaller in scale, the one-story wing has the same steep roof pitch as the main roof. A river rock tapered chimney—matching the river rock of the house foundation—rises at the front end of the wing. The rear of the house has a shed room (SM; M. Mayberry).

**Carport**

Noncontributing structure

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 19

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

---

ca. 1960

South of the house stands a two-bay carport with a flat, corrugated-metal roof and V-shaped metal support posts.

### **Blackburn Apartments**

331-337 North Bridge Street  
1948

Contributing building

The four-apartment building is a rectangular, two-story brick structure with a flat roof and six-over-six sash windows. Its common-bond brick pattern and four classical entrances with broken pediments framing urns harken back to the Colonial Revival style (TR; SM; Laffoon).

### **Handy Apartments**

339 North Bridge Street  
1941

Contributing building

Facing the intersection of North Bridge and Church streets, the simple, two-story, nearly square, brick apartment building has a low hipped roof with a central chimney and paired one-over-one sash. The three-bay facade features a projecting, pedimented center entrance bay with an octagonal window on either side of the door. At the rear of the building is a three-tier service porch, six-over-six sash basement windows, and basement entrances with braced hoods (SM; TR; Laffoon).

### **(Intersection with Church Street)**

### **Smith-Neaves House**

401 North Bridge Street  
ca. 1923

Contributing building

On August 1, 1922, J. M. Simmons purchased two groups of lots in the Hendrix Heights development (mapped in 1922) just outside the Elkin Land Company development. Lots 162, 163, and 164 were the site on which the house at 401 North Bridge Street was built. Whether or not Simmons built the house is not known. However, Sanborn maps indicate that it had been erected by 1925. The first known owner was Clement Smith and his family. Clem Smith worked at the Elkin Shoe Company, which was owned by his brother, Alexander M. Smith. After Smith moved from Elkin in 1927, William Avery Neaves purchased the house, moving from his earlier home at 289 North Bridge Street. Neaves had moved to Elkin in 1913 to work at Chatham Manufacturing Company, eventually becoming vice-president,

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 20

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

---

general superintendent, and a director of the company. He also served on the original Board of Trustees of the Hugh Chatham Memorial Hospital when it was established in 1931. The house remains in Neaves family ownership. The house is a large, two-story frame, three-bay-wide, Colonial Revival-style dwelling with weatherboard siding that is beveled at the corners. It has a hipped roof, a front hipped dormer, interior chimneys with paneled stacks, and twelve-over-twelve sash windows with wood shutters. The center entrance bay projects slightly and is further accented by a classical entrance porch with balustraded deck roof. Boxwood-lined steps and walk wind uphill to the front entrance (Deeds; SM; C. Smith; Neaves; CH).

**Garage**  
ca. 1950

Contributing building

A matching one-story frame garage with a hipped roof, weatherboard siding with beveled corners, and a hipped, braced overhang sheltering the two-car opening stands behind the house.

**James R. Poindexter House**  
409 North Bridge Street  
ca. 1930

Contributing building

The house is a simple, two-story, brick Colonial Revival-style dwelling with a side gable roof, a southwest side chimney, a three-bay facade, six-over-six sash windows, and a one-story room projecting from the southwest side. A classical, pedimented porch with Tuscan columns shelters the entrance at the far right (northeast) facade bay. A stone retaining wall with grapevine joints runs along the front of the yard and along either side of the northeast side driveway. Typical of the period, the concrete driveway has a center grass strip. This was originally the home of James R. Poindexter (1882-1960), owner of the Surry Hardware and mayor of Elkin around 1940 (R. Smith; SM; TR; CH).

**Garage**  
ca. 1930

Contributing building

A garage that appears contemporaneous with the house is located at the rear end of the driveway. The one-story brick structure has a front-facing gable roof. A hipped, bracketed overhang shelters the paneled garage doors with their row of four-light windows across the top.

**John and Cora Lee Ipock House**  
411 North Bridge Street  
ca. 1926

Contributing building



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 21

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

---

John Pierce Ipock (1894-1932) moved to Elkin after World War I, where he became the general manager and secretary of the Elkin and Allegheny Railroad Company. In 1923 he married Cora Lee Woodruff, and the two of them operated the Ipock Coal Company at West Main and Front Street. After John died in 1932, Cora continued to run the coal yard and live in the house. She died in 1974; the house remains occupied by a younger generation of the family. The one-story, weatherboarded frame dwelling is an excellent example of a Craftsman bungalow. The asymmetrical house has multiple front and side low gables sheathed with wood shingles. The widely overhanging eaves are supported by excellent Craftsman brackets. Windows are composed of six-over-one, four-over-one, and twelve-over-one sash as well as a pair of casement windows flanking the northeast side chimney. Tapered wood posts set on river rock plinths support a broad, wraparound porch that shelters the main front entrance and, on the northeast side, a river rock chimney. Rock is also used for the retaining wall that separates the front yard from the sidewalk, on the risers of the steps leading to the house, and on the low walls flanking the steps (SM; TR; R. Smith; HSC-1).

**Garage**  
ca. 1926

Contributing building

Northeast of the house and facing east stands a one-story, single-bay frame garage with weatherboard siding and a gable roof with exposed rafter ends.

**Hollywood Cemetery**  
451 North Bridge Street  
1875; 1897; 1934

Contributing site

On April 30, 1897, Thomas Lenoir Gwyn and his wife, Amelia, sold nearly six-and-a-half acres to the Commissioners of the Town of Elkin for the town cemetery. Located on the northwest side of what was then the "Old State Road to Virginia," now North Bridge Street, the land was just outside (north of) the 1891 Elkin Land Company development. The first known mention of the name "Hollywood Cemetery" came in a December 2, 1897, newspaper note announcing that a monument had been erected at the grave of Carrie Gwyn Smith, daughter of Thomas L. Gwyn and second wife of Alexander M. Smith. She, however, was not the first to be buried here, for the cemetery had served as the grave yard for members of the Richard Gwyn family since, at least, the death of Mary Elizabeth Gwyn Chatham on December 23, 1875. She was the daughter of Elkin patriarch Richard Gwyn and the wife of industrialist Alexander Chatham. Other members of the Gwyn family known to have been buried in the cemetery prior to its becoming Hollywood Cemetery were Richard Gwyn (1881) and his wife, Elizabeth (1885); Richard R. Gwyn (1894), son of Richard Gwyn; and Fannie Gwyn Smith (1895), daughter of Richard R. Gwyn and

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 22

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

first wife of Alexander M. Smith. Later, not only were T. L. Gwyn, Alexander Chatham, and A. M. Smith buried here, but Hollywood Cemetery became the final resting place for most of Elkin's leaders and their families, as well as others, throughout the twentieth century.

Today, the entire cemetery is composed of the original 1897 section and sections added in 1934 (purchased from neighbor W. A. Neaves), 1957, 1967, 1968, 1980, and 1989. Only the 1897 and 1934 sections and the small 1980 section are included in the historic district, the first two because they are the only ones developed within the district's period of significance and the third because its particular placement within the cemetery would make its exclusion awkward. Laid out on approximately twelve shady acres, the cemetery is organized by a combination of straight and curving lanes. The original section of the cemetery stretches northward from North Bridge Street, where a low rubble-stone wall with a rusticated granite cap borders it. At each of the four entrances to the cemetery—vehicular and pedestrian—the wall is broken by two slightly larger posts that are treated in the same manner as the wall. The cemetery lanes in this section form a grid with an outer north and northeastern lane curving around the whole. From there, the 1934 section stretches westward along a ridge with an east-west lane that ends in a circle. Lanes border the north and west sides of this section. Along the south side of the 1934 section, the land drops sharply downward to a wooded ravine that abuts the rear property lines of 401, 409, and 411 North Bridge Street. The small 1980 section is located at the southwest corner of the 1934 section and is not separated from it by a lane or other divider. (The remaining sections of the cemetery, not included in the historic district, are largely treeless and are terraced downhill from the older sections.) The nominated portion of the cemetery includes around 1100 graves, less than two dozen of which are in the 1980 addition. Grave stones consist primarily of large and small obelisks and tablet head and foot stones consistent with those typically found in cemeteries of the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries (Deeds; ELC Map; EBQ; *Journal*).

### CHURCH STREET (East Side)

#### W. Marion Allen House

138 Church Street  
ca. 1920

Contributing building

The first known owner of this house was Elkin attorney W. Marion Allen (1898-1988). During the Depression, he served as chairman of the Local Associated Charities. The two-story frame, Dutch Colonial Revival-style house has a steep gambrel roof whose eaves flare out at front and rear. A long shed dormer across most of the facade (probably also across the back of the house), a pair of interior chimneys, a slightly set-back, single-bay, south wing that echoes the main body of the house, and a one-story addition extending from the northeast rear corner of the house also characterize the house.

Windows are twelve-over-one, six-over-one, and six-over-six sash, and the center bay classical entrance

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 23

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

has sidelights and a transom. The house is currently sheathed with vinyl siding (SM; R. Smith; CH).

**C. F. Lineberry House**  
204 Church Street  
ca. 1920

Contributing building

The house is associated with the C. F. Lineberry family, who may have been the original owners. Mr. Lineberry operated the Pure Oil distributorship in Elkin. The large house had become the Lineberry Apartments by at least the 1940s. It remains in use as apartments. The two-story frame dwelling, now sheathed with vinyl siding, is ambitiously detailed. In overall form, the house has a three-bay facade, a one-story open porch on the north side, a one-story room—probably originally a sun room—on the south side, a side-gable roof with a front gabled dormer, and an interior chimney. Among the multiple types of window sash are twelve-over-four, nine-over-four, and two-over-two. Each of the side gables boasts a Palladian window, and the front dormer has a trio of windows whose upper sash are defined by a broad, segmental arch that encompasses the three. The center-bay entrance of the house has a gable roof with an elliptical arch forming the soffit. Hidden by the current vinyl siding is a broad sunburst beneath the elliptical arch. The remarkable entrance sheltered by the classical porch consists of a twenty-four-light French door with eighteen-light sidelights and a three-part transom with twelve lights over the door and nine lights over each of the sidelights (SM; R. Smith; Stuart).

**George E. and Janie B. Royall House**  
214 Church Street  
ca. 1910

Contributing building

George E. Royall (1897-1987) and his wife, Janie B. Royall (1896-1987), were the first known owners of this house. George Royall operated a drugstore downtown beginning in the 1920s; in 1914 he had been a member of Elkin's baseball team. Janie Royall was active in the organization of several women's groups in Elkin, among them the American League Auxiliary in 1931, for which she served as the first president, and the Study Club in 1954. The two-story, German-sided frame house exhibits a combination of simple Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styling. It has a steep hipped roof with front and north-side cross gables, angled two-story bays at the north and south ends of the house, one-over-one sash windows, a center entrance with sidelights, and a one-story, wraparound porch with Tuscan columns and a pedimented entrance bay. A one-story ell extends from the rear of the house (SM; R. Smith; CH).

**Garage**  
ca. 1950

Contributing building

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 24

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

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South of the house stands a one-story, concrete-block garage with a single bay and weatherboarded gable ends.

### Vacant Lot

#### **Simmons-Whitaker House**

Contributing building

246 Church Street  
1914

According to former owner Walter Minish, Martin Simmons was the first owner of the house. He was associated with the Farmers and Merchants Bank. Local tradition and physical evidence suggest that the house was built, in part, from materials reused from the 1870 Methodist church (later the Elkin School), that stood across the street until it was torn down for the construction of a new school in 1914-1915. However, today the house is most widely known by elderly Elkin residents as the home of William W. Whitaker (1879-1949). He moved to Elkin from Pilot Mountain in 1898. Whitaker operated a grocery store on Main Street and was the local agent for Hupmobile and Ford automobiles. During the 1930s he was Elkin's fire chief. During World War II Whitaker served on Elkin's tire rationing board. Mrs. Whitaker was the first president of the Yadkin Valley Garden Club when it was formed in 1933. The Whitaker's daughter was Nina Hayes, who with her husband, Errol, lived at 331 Church Street. After selling their home up the street in 1953, the Hayes's moved back to her family home at 246 Church Street. The two-story frame house is one of the few in Elkin to exhibit the influence of the Neo-Classical Revival style. The exterior is dominated by a two-story central portico that projects slightly in front of a one-story porch that extends across the full width of the facade and a balustraded second-story porch above the center entrance bay. Originally the portico and porch columns were Ionic and the first story porch had a balustrade. After 1982, the columns were replaced with fluted Doric columns, and the first story balustrade was removed. The entrance of the house features a large, vertical panel of glass set in a wood surround and flanked by beveled and leaded-glass sidelights. North and south of the entrance are two bay windows. The house also features a steep hipped roof with multiple intersecting pedimented gables, interior chimneys, one-over-one sash windows, and a two-tier rear service porch. In recent years, the house has been vinyl-sided (SM; ST; CH; R. Smith; Hughes; Triplette).

#### **William and Dixie Freeman House**

Contributing building

268 Church Street  
ca. 1920

Although the original owner of this one-story frame bungalow is not known, it has been the home of the Freeman family since 1941. Joseph William Freeman (1911-1976) worked for his brother, Richard, who

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 25

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

owned the local Chevrolet dealership. The roof of the vinyl-sided house has front and side clipped gables. Extending across the entire three-bay face is an engaged porch with paired wood posts set on brick plinths with granite caps and a plain balustrade. The house retains its Craftsman-style windows (SM; Freeman; R. Smith).

**Storage building**  
ca. 1945

Contributing building

A one-story frame storage building with a gable roof stands just south of the house. Its entrance with a five-horizontal-panel door faces the house. A large wooded lot extends southward from the outbuilding.

**Baptist Pastorium**  
274 Church Street  
ca. 1910

Contributing building

Although its date of construction was earlier, the first known use of the house, from at least the early 1930s through the 1940s, was as the Baptist Pastorium. A new parsonage was erected at 132 Gwyn Avenue in 1949. Subsequent to its use as a parsonage, the house was occupied by local attorney Parks Hampton. Subsequent to Hampton's ownership, the house has been in possession of the William Freeman family of 268 Church Street. Typical of many Queen Anne-style cottages built during the early years of the twentieth century, the house has a steep hipped roof with pedimented side cross gables, interior chimneys, and a partial front porch with plain posts and sawnwork balustrade. Somewhat unusual is the left front projecting wing with its angled bay-front end and exterior front chimney. Although the body of the house has been covered with vinyl siding, the roof retains its pressed-metal shingles and its decorative metal acroteria on the ridgecrests (SM; ET; Laffoon; Freeman).

### (Intersection with West Spring Street)

**Lonnie F. and Disa (Dicie) H. Walker House**  
306 Church Street  
1921

Contributing building

The Walkers were the first owners of this one-and-a-half-story bungalow. In 1919 L. F. Walker (1893-1972) moved to Elkin from Wilkes County and became associated with his brother-in-law, John A. Somers, who owned Somers and Company, a five-and-ten-cent store. Somers lived directly behind the Walkers at 305 North Bridge Steet. After the death of Somers in 1931, the store became the Walker

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 26

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

Five-and-Ten-Cent Store. Although the first story of the three-bay-wide frame house has been covered with vinyl siding, the upper half story retains its wood-shingle siding. The house features a broad, cross-gable roof with overhanging eaves. The gables of the front porch—which originally wrapped around the south corner of the house but has been enclosed on that side—echo those of the main roof. The porch has brick posts and a solid brick skirt. Additional features of the bungalow include six-over-one and six-over-six sash windows and an exposed brick basement on the north side, where the land slopes sharply to the east. By 1942 the carport, with its brick posts, solid brick skirt, and low, front-facing gable roof, had been added to the northwest corner of the house ( SM; CH; Laffoon; R. Smith).

**Harvey F. and Lillian E. Laffoon House**  
320 Church Street  
ca. 1935

Contributing building

Newspaper man Harvey Laffoon started as an apprentice printer with the *Elkin Times* in 1913. He then left Elkin for several years to work for newspapers in North Wilkesboro, Greensboro, and Durham. In 1922 Laffoon returned to work with the *Elkin Tribune*, becoming its publisher and editor in 1926. He still held these positions when he retired forty-two years later in 1968. At a tribute in his honor in 1960, Laffoon was praised as a “complete newspaper man.” Lillian Laffoon was active in local garden clubs. The asymmetrical one-and-a-half-story brick house exhibits a simple version of the Period Cottage style. It has right front and north side gables, each holding paired sash windows, along with other six-over-six sash windows that are single or in groups of three with soldier-course brick lintels. The most defining stylistic feature is the house’s front entrance. Its small porch has a gable roof, brick posts, and round-arched openings on the front and two sides. The porch shelters a Medieval-paneled door with a round-arched fanlight. The north-side enclosed porch was added after 1942. An extensive south-side yard that slopes downward to the east separates the house from 306 Church Street (SM; Laffoon; CH).

### CHURCH STREET (West Side)

**Dr. Hugh Clay Salmons House**  
129 Church Street  
ca. 1910; ca. 1920

Contributing building

A comparison of the 1915 and 1925 Sanborn maps suggests that the present house may be an enlargement, by 1925, of the one-and-a-half-story house shown on the 1915 map. The builder of the original house is not known. The earliest known owner of the house in its enlarged form was Dr. Hugh Clay Salmons. Dr. Salmons, a native of Yadkin County, moved to Elkin ca. 1912. In 1924, he and Dr. Robert R. Garvey opened Elkin’s first hospital on the second floor of the new commercial building at

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 27

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

128 West Main Street (northeast corner of West Main and Church streets). The hospital operated for only two years, but clearly demonstrated the need for a permanent facility. When the Hugh Chatham Memorial Hospital opened in 1931, Dr. Salmons was on the medical staff. The Salmons house now serves the community as the Foothills Arts Council. The large, two-story frame house (now sheathed with vinyl siding) has a central hipped roof with two front gables and a side gabled dormer. The northernmost bay of the three-bay facade projects slightly from the rest of the facade and is angled at first-floor level to create a bay window. Windows are four-over-four sash, mostly paired or tripled. Each of the front gables are paneled, with a four-light transom at the center and a paneled bargeboard with sawnwork detailing at the peak. A one-story classical porch with Tuscan columns carries across the facade and wraps around the south side of the house. A sunburst-designed gable with a paneled bargeboard accents the center-bay entrance. A porte-cochere with a balustraded roof deck was added to the north side of the house after 1942. A pair of stone posts marks the point where the front walk meets the sidewalk (SM; Canipe; CH; WT).

### (Intersection with Old Virginia Road)

**J. R. Johnson House**  
267 Church Street  
ca. 1930

Contributing building

J. R. Johnson is believed locally to have been the first owner. He was both an automobile dealer and operator of a local oil company. Sisters Madge and Minnie Russell later occupied the house, moving to it (probably in the 1940s) after their home on Gwyn Avenue burned. The unusual two-story house features a steep, front-facing gable roof covered with wood shingles. Long shed dormers carry down either side of the main roof, and interior rubble-stone chimneys rise from the roof ridge. On the south side, the shed roof extends forward to the east, becoming a hipped roof that shelters a projecting front wing. Rubble stone covers the first story of the house; the upper story is sheathed with replacement vinyl shingles. At the northeast corner of the house, a one-story porch is both recessed into the corner and projects from it. The porch has stone plinths (the upper part of the posts have been replaced with concrete) and a stone skirt. Above the porch is a deck with a replacement balustrade and a side stair leading to it. A brick and ironwork fence stretches along the northeast corner of the front yard (SM; R. Smith; Laffoon; Freeman).

**J. H. Allred House**  
271 Church Street  
ca. 1925

Contributing building

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 28

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

The one-and-a-half-story bungalow was first owned by Joe H. Allred. Coming to Elkin from Mt. Airy in 1925, he served as principal of the Elkin School until 1932. During his time as principal, the school building was modernized and the curriculum was expanded to include a business department offering typing, shorthand, and bookkeeping. The weatherboarded frame house has a clipped-gable roof and a front chimney. Windows are eight-over-eight and six-over-six sash and are generally grouped in twos or threes. The center-bay front entrance with sidelights and fanlight transom was originally sheltered by a single-bay porch. The porch, with replacement ironwork posts, has been extended to the north end of the facade (SM; CH; Laffoon; Freeman).

### (Intersection with West Spring Street)

#### Parking Lot

The paved lot provides parking for the residents of the Lewis Apartments. Previously, it was the site of a one-and-a-half-story frame house, shown on the 1942 Sanborn map.

**Lewis Apartments**  
315 Church Street  
1940

Contributing building

On January 1, 1940, Chatham Manufacturing Company officially consolidated its Winston-Salem finishing plant and main office with the company's primary facilities in Elkin. This meant a sudden influx of company employees who needed housing. Several developments at the time helped ease the housing shortage; one was the building of the Lewis Apartments by a Mr. Lewis and Albert Butler Sr., a Chatham executive who lived in Winston-Salem. Many of the initial occupants later owned their own houses. The plain, rectangular, three-story brick building is three bays wide and eight bays deep. A concrete band encircles the building beneath the concrete cornice coping. Modern windows have replaced the original ones. The primary entrance is in the center bay of the east facade and consists of a French door with sidelights and a concrete-quoined surround. A metal canopy shelters the front entrance. The front of the property features a low, broken-concrete retaining wall and steps (SM; Laffoon).

#### Vacant Lot

The lawn-like lot provided a parking area for the residents of the Lewis Apartments prior to the creation of the paved lot on the south side of the building. It is no longer under the same ownership as the apartment building.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 29

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

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### (Intersection with Hendrix Avenue)

#### **Hayes-Triplette House**

Contributing building

331 Church Street  
ca. 1925

Erroll and Nina Hayes are believed locally to have been the first owners of this large, one-and-a-half-story brick bungalow. Erroll (1899-1951) owned a furniture store and was an undertaker (a typical occupational combination in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries). Nina (1900-1966) was the daughter of merchant and fire chief W. W. Hayes, and after Erroll died, she returned to the Whitaker family home at 246 Church Street to live. Subsequently, ca. 1953, Ralph "Ace" and Connie Triplette purchased the house, which is currently owned by their son, Walter. The house has a steep side-gable roof which flares outward in front to cover the front porch and in the rear to cover a shed room and an enclosed service porch. The front slope of the roof is interrupted by a four-bay shed dormer; a single-bay shed dormer is on the rear. Near the peak of each gable is a round-arched ventilator. A brick chimney rises on the south side of the house near the front, and a smaller interior chimney is found at the rear of the house. Windows are eight-over-one and six-over-one sash with wood louvered shutters. The full-facade porch shelters the center-bay entrance and flanking multi-pane casement windows. Large, classically inspired, paneled-wood posts support the porch. A porte-cochere with the same features as the porch projects from the north side of the house (SM; W. Triplette; Laffoon).

#### **Garage/Apartment**

Contributing building

ca. 1945

Behind the Hayes-Triplette House is a two-story, concrete-block building with a garage on the first floor and an apartment on the second. It has a gable roof and, on the north end, a second-story screened porch. The building is oriented toward Hendrix Avenue (currently a partial street).

#### **Shed**

Noncontributing building

Last quarter twentieth century

North of the garage/apartment stands a small one-story frame shed. It has vertical-board siding, a gable roof, a gable-end door, and a paired six-over-six sash window on the south side.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 30

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

### GWYN AVENUE (East Side)

#### First Baptist Church

110 Gwyn Avenue  
1955; 1968

Contributing building

First Baptist Church of Elkin was organized in 1889. The first church building, a small frame structure, was built soon thereafter on Elk Spur Street. In 1903 a new brick church was completed on Main Street. In the mid 1940s, after the consolidation of all of Chatham Manufacturing Company's operations in Elkin had helped to greatly increase the size of the congregation, it was decided that a new church should be erected on a new site. In 1945 the church purchased both the Chatham homeplace at the northeast corner of East Market Street and Gwyn Avenue, and a seventy-five-foot lot adjacent to it on Gwyn Avenue for \$26,750.00. The Chatham Foundation donated \$10,000 toward the purchase price. Ground breaking for the church was celebrated on April 12, 1953, and the first services were held on June 19, 1955. In 1968 a smaller chapel, located south of the church and attached to the west side of the education wing, was completed and occupied. Facing Gwyn Avenue, the church is a large brick building with a front-facing gable roof and six tall stained-glass windows lining each side. Rising from the front end of the church is a three-stage belfry consisting of a square brick base with a balustraded cornice, an octagonal stage with round-arched windows separated by pilasters and crowned by broad, paneled pediments, and a smaller, octagonal stage with rectangular louvered vents and a heavy cornice. The belfry is topped by a tall polygonal spire. A Neo-Classical Revival-style pedimented portico, with four heroic Tuscan columns, two Tuscan pilasters, and a full classical entablature, shelters the three double-leaf entrances of the facade, the center one of which is pedimented. Extending from the rear of the church and stretching southward is the large, two-story, brick education wing with a water table, eight-over-eight sash windows, a double-leaf classical entrance near the center of the west side, and a flat roof. On the north side of the education building, a canopied walkway extends outward to the driveway. The chapel is a smaller version of the main church but with minor variations, including (but not limited to) sixteen-over-sixteen sash windows down the north and south sides, a single front entrance instead of three, rectangular windows on the second stage of the belfry, and a shorter, bellcast spire. It, too, boasts a Neo-Classical Revival-style portico. The church complex sits on a large tract of land that slopes southward to Market Street. Tall trees provide shade along Gwyn Avenue, small shrubbery surrounds the buildings, large shrubbery forms a hedge along part of the hill above Market Street, and a stone retaining wall lines the rear portion of the property along Market Street. Behind the church is a paved parking lot that extends northward behind the parsonage (130). At the north end of the parking lot is a small fenced playground (CH).

**Carports (2)**

2 Noncontributing structures

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 31

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

---

ca. 2000

In the parking lot behind the church are two adjacent carports of different size. Both have metal supports and a flat roof. The larger one to the north is tall enough to shelter the church bus; the smaller, shorter, south one shelters the church van.

### **First Baptist Church Parsonage**

Contributing building

130 Gwyn Avenue  
1949

The parsonage, which was built prior to the church, stands on a hill facing south toward the church. It is a two-story brick house of Colonial Revival styling. The three-bay facade features a central, classical, pedimented doorway. Windows are six-over-six sash, and the house is crowned by a side-gable roof with a simple cornice. A single chimney rises from the midpoint of the west gable end. A gabled, side-entrance porch with Tuscan columns is also on the west side of the house, which no longer serves as the parsonage but is used by the church in a variety of other ways (CH).

### **Sam and Margaret Neaves House**

Contributing building

132 Gwyn Avenue  
1939

Sam and Margaret Neaves built this simple, one-and-a-half-story frame house in 1939, the year after they married. Sam Neaves was an executive with Chatham Manufacturing Company. Now vinyl-sided, the house features a brick foundation that forms a raised basement at the rear, a side-gable roof with corner returns, a front-of-center chimney on the north side, a rear ell, and six-over-six sash windows. Sheltering the entrance at the center of the three-bay facade is a gabled porch with Tuscan columns at the corners and an arched soffit (SM; Neaves).

### **Garage**

Contributing building

ca. 1950

Behind the house stands a one-story frame garage with a shed roof and several bays. It may also have been used, in part, as a workshop or for storage.

### **John B. and Angie Smith Horton House**

Contributing building

140 Gwyn Avenue  
First decade twentieth century

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 32

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

John Horton (1863-1923) was president of the Elkin Realty and Insurance Company, which was organized in 1907 by combining the separate agencies of Horton and J. F. Hendren. Horton also established the Horton Telephone Company. Angie Smith Horton (1871-1945) was the sister of A. M. Smith, who lived at 131 Gwyn Avenue. After Smith's second wife died in 1897, Angie moved from the Lynchburg area of Virginia to help her brother. There she met John Horton, and in November 1908 the two married in a ceremony at the Smith home. The Horton House may have been built at that time, if John Horton had not already built it. The basic form of the house is that of a two-story, weatherboarded-frame dwelling, three bays wide and one room deep, with a gabled roof, a one-story front porch, and a one-story rear ell. However, it is the detailing that distinguishes the late Victorian dwelling from others in Elkin. The roof not only has side gables, but also three steep gables of equal side across the front. Each gable is outlined with a vertical beaded-board band, and each has a circular medallion vent. A plain frieze board encircles the house at the base of the gables. At each end of the roof, in the valley formed by the intersection of the front and side gables, is a tiny, front-facing, pedimented gable faced with vertical beaded boards. Also unusual is the low exterior wainscot of diagonally-set beaded boards that encircles the two-story portion of the house beneath the first-story sash windows. The hip-roofed porch across the facade possesses turned posts, a turned balustrade, and a sawnwork frieze. The center-bay front entrance features a glass-and-wood-paneled double-leaf door with a narrow two-light transom (Canipe; CH; *Times*; C. Smith; ST).

### Guest House

Noncontributing building

Last quarter twentieth century

Behind the house stands a one-and-a-half-story frame guest house. It has vinyl siding, a steep gambrel roof, and a wood stair on the west side leading to an upper-floor deck on the north end of the building.

### Shed

Noncontributing building

Last quarter twentieth century

Northeast of the house stands a small frame shed with a combination of weatherboard and lattice siding, a shed roof, and a door on the west side.

### Penn House

Contributing building

146 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1893

Local tradition claims that the Penn family originally owned this one-story frame house with late

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 33

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

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Victorian detailing. In fact, the Elkin Land Company sold the lot on which the house stands to Ada W. Penn in November 1893. The high selling price of \$1,000 suggests that the house had already been built. In the 1930s the Hock family occupied the house. The left front and south side wings of the L-shaped house have polygonal ends topped by polygonal roofs. The wraparound front porch features a corner gabled entrance bay, turned posts, and decorative sawnwork brackets. The house, which has been sheathed in replacement siding, has both two-over-two and six-over-six sash windows with shutters and a replacement front door (SM; Deeds; R. Smith).

### **Morgan Hanks House**

Contributing building

152 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1930

The small, one-story brick house has a side-gable roof with corner returns, a south-side chimney, and one-over-one sash windows. A porch with a front-gable roof with cornice returns, wood corner posts, and a patterned-brick skirt shelters the center-bay entrance. The earliest known occupant was Morgan Hanks (R. Smith; SM).

### **Presbyterian Manse**

Contributing building

154 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1923

According to local tradition, the house was first used as the Presbyterian Manse. In October 1923 the church, under the newly formed Winston-Salem Presbytery, called Rev. J. H. Carter as its first regular pastor, and thus there was a need for a manse. In later years, the Wall family occupied the house. A one-and-a-half-story, weatherboarded frame dwelling, the former manse has a side-gable roof whose front slope continues downward to encompass the engaged front porch, while the rear slope is much shorter. A shed roof springs outward from the roof ridge to form a full-width front dormer with two pairs of windows flanking a smaller center window. A one-story ell extends from the rear of the house. Other features include a south-side chimney, six-over-six sash windows with inoperable shutters, a three-bay facade with a center door with sidelights flanked by two windows, and bungalow porch posts with tapered wood posts set on brick plinths (SM; R. Smith; CH).

### **Utility Building**

Noncontributing building

Last quarter twentieth century

Behind the house stands a small, modern utility building. Set on a concrete pad, it has vertical-board siding, a shallow gable roof, and a double-leaf door on the front gable end.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 34

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

**Max and Kathleen Boyles House**  
206 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1935

Contributing building

Max Franklin Boyles was born in Pilot Mountain in 1910. In 1933 he moved to Elkin to work at the Elkin Furniture Company, where M. R. Bailey was superintendent. The following year Boyles married Bailey's daughter, Kathleen, at the Bailey home at 239 Gwyn Avenue. Boyles was later associated with the G and B Oil Company in Elkin. The two-story, vinyl-sided frame, simple Colonial Revival-style dwelling has a side-gable roof, a south-end chimney, one-story shed rooms on the rear, and eight-over-eight sash windows with louvered shutters. Nearly centered on the three-bay facade is the entrance, flanked by shutters and headed by a segmental arch. Low stone retaining walls frame the two sides of the yard (SM; HSC-2).

**Garage**  
Last quarter twentieth century

Noncontributing building

At the end of the driveway behind the house is a one-story, frame and corrugated-metal garage with a broad gable roof and doors on the west end.

**Charles W. Moseley House**  
212 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1900

Contributing building

Charles W. Moseley (1865-1942), a physician, likely was the original owner of this house. On March 3, 1899, the Elkin Land Company sold Moseley Lots 1 and 2 of Block 14 (this location on the Elkin Land Company 1891 map). In the 1930s, the house was owned by a Mrs. Cockerham, who used it as rental property. The one-story, frame, vernacular Queen Anne-style house has a stuccoed foundation, replacement aluminum siding, and a gabled roof with an intersecting gable on the front. All gable ends display pointed, wood-louvered vents. The four-bay-wide house features a left front projecting bay whose angled corners are decorated with sawnwork brackets. A fanciful hip-roofed front porch with turned posts and sawnwork brackets and balustrade carries across the remainder of the facade (SM; Deeds; Hughes; HSC-1).

### Wooded Lot

This vacant lot—grassy in front, wooded toward the rear—once was the site of a one-story frame house built prior to 1915 and the home of Ralph Cook in the 1930s (SM; R. Smith).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 35

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

**John Park House**  
228 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1905

Contributing building

The earliest history of the house is not known. On August 31, 1905, the Elkin Land Company sold two lots at this location to W. J. Boyles, and he may have built the house. However, the first known occupant was John Park, who moved here with his family around 1930. During these years, Park was an auto mechanic. The two-story, L-shaped, frame house is unusual in that a pent roof caps the first-story, while the second story has a flat roof. Additionally, the left front and south side wings of the house end in three-sided bays, while on the second story, these ends are slightly recessed and are squared-off. The first story has one-over-one sash windows; on the second story the windows are four-over-four sash. A porch with Tuscan columns and a plain balustrade stretches across the south two thirds of the facade, and a service porch and deck are on the rear. The house, which has been sheathed with replacement vinyl siding, has a brick foundation with above-grade basement rooms at the rear. A white picket fence set in broad scallops borders the front yard (SM; Deeds; R. Smith).

**Garage**  
Last quarter twentieth century

Noncontributing building

Southeast of the house stands a one-story, single-bay, concrete-block garage with a gable roof.

**George and Pearl Adams House**  
232 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1910

Contributing building

George and Pearl Adams, the first known occupants, were living in this one-story frame house around the 1930s. Pearl Adams was paymaster at the Chatham Manufacturing Company. The house appears to have been built ca. 1910, although the dwelling depicted at this location on the 1915 Sanborn map has a somewhat different configuration. In 1909 the Elkin Land Company sold two lots at this location to C. E. Holcomb, who may have been the house's original owner. Typical of many houses of its period, the Adams House is nearly square and has a brick foundation (above grade at rear), a steep hipped roof with small intersecting cross gables, an interior chimney, and two-over-two sash windows. A large wraparound porch with plain wood posts and balustrade carries across the three-bay facade and down two-thirds of the south side, the rear third being enclosed as a sunroom. The house is sheathed in replacement asbestos-shingle siding (SM; R. Smith; Deeds).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 36

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

### **Herman Guyer House**

Contributing building

234 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1920

An early occupant of this house was Herman Guyer, an employee at the Belk department store. Nearly touching the north side of the adjacent house (232 Gwyn Avenue), the simple one-story frame bungalow is sheathed in asbestos-shingle siding, has a front-facing gable roof, an interior chimney, and four-over-one sash windows. A porch, with a gable slightly lower than that of the main roof and tapered wood corner posts, shelters the three-bay facade with its slightly off-center entrance (SM; R. Smith).

### **McGuire-Bailey House**

Contributing building

240 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1915; ca. 1945

Samuel O. Maguire (1883-1963) and his wife, Rebecca, were the first known occupants of the house. Later, it was the home of Glen Bailey (1911-1984), son of the M. R. Baileys, who lived across the street at 239 Gwyn Avenue. Sanborn maps and physical evidence suggests that the house originally was a one-story frame dwelling with the wraparound porch. Probably in the mid 1940s the house was raised to one-and-a-half stories, the wraparound porch was removed, the weatherboarding was sheathed with asbestos-shingle siding, and Craftsman-style features—such as a gabled roof with braced eaves and a front shed dormer—were added. The house retains its left front one-story wing, though modified in detail, and has a center front entrance with a gabled stoop. First-story windows are two-over-two sash, while those on the upper half story are four-over-one sash in the Craftsman style. The most unusual feature of the house provides a clue to its past. The southwest front corner, originally angled, has been enclosed in glass that squares off the corner and yet leaves intact and visible, through the glass, the original window and weatherboard siding (SM; R. Smith).

### **Carport**

Noncontributing structure

Last quarter twentieth century

North of the house is a small carport with metal pole supports and a flat metal roof.

### **Robert L. Church House**

Contributing building

246 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1936

R. L. Church (1876-1946) built this one-and-a-half-story, Minimal Traditional style, brick house after



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 37

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

---

fire completely destroyed his earlier home in early 1936. The house has a steep gable roof with a chimney centered on the front slope near the ridge. The gable roof of the one-story wing on the north side of the house echoes the pitch of the main roof. The house is three bays wide with six-over-six sash windows that are often paired. The front entrance with its gabled stoop is centered on the facade (SM; R. Smith; CH).

### (Intersection with East Spring Street)

#### **Charlie Alexander House**

Contributing building

306 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1920

The first known occupant of this one-story frame bungalow was Charlie Alexander, owner of a local funeral home. Mrs. Alexander was one of the organizers, in 1951, of the North Elkin Extension Homemakers. The weatherboarded house features a broad, side-gable roof whose pedimented, wood-shingled gables have peaked, louvered vents. A single, off-center chimney pierces the roof ridge; another rises from the rear of the short rear ell. Windows are nine-over-one sash. The three-bay facade is sheltered by an engaged porch with sturdy brick posts and a paneled frieze (SM; R. Smith; CH).

#### **Willard House**

Contributing building

312 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1915

The one-and-a-half-story frame house was probably built by J. W. Willard, who purchased the property on January 2, 1915. Elderly Elkin residents remember it only as the home of Mrs. Willard, a widow. The most distinctive feature of the house is its side-gambrel roof with intersecting front gambrel. The front of the house also has two gabled dormers. Windows are one-over-one sash, and three-sided bay windows project from the north end of the facade and the east end of the south elevation. In addition to the gambrel roof, the other most salient feature of the house is its large wraparound porch, which carries across the south three quarters of the front and the entire south side of the house. The porch has plain wood posts and balustrade. The house is vinyl-sided (SM; R. Smith; Key; Deeds).

#### **Franklin House**

Contributing building

316 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1920

Little is known about the history of this house, except that it was the home of the Franklin family during

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 38

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

the second quarter of the twentieth century. The dominant feature of the one-and-a-half-story, vinyl-sided, frame house is its ultra-steep, front-facing gable roof. The front gable has a distinctive arrangement of openings: a three-part window in the center flanked by small square windows, and a triangular ventilator in the gable peak. A front porch with a much broader gable roof and Tuscan columns shelters the three-bay facade. On the south side of the house is a projecting two-story bay; on the north side is a shed-roofed dormer and a porte-cochere (SM; R. Smith).

### **Mathis-Price House**

Contributing building

322 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1910

The Mathis family was associated with this one-and-a-half-story frame house during the second quarter of the twentieth century. It was subsequently the home of the Price family. The first floor is sheathed with beaded board siding, while the upper half story is wood-shingled. The roof rises to a truncated hip, with multiple front and side intersecting gables and a small shed dormer on the south side. Two interior chimneys pierce the roof. Windows are two-over-two and one-over-one sash. A large wraparound porch (south side partially enclosed) is supported by grouped Tuscan colonettes set on brick piers and a tapered brick corner post. A low, slightly projecting gable roof accents the central entrance bay (SM; R. Smith).

### **Habitat for Humanity House**

Noncontributing building

330 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 2006

The Habitat for Humanity house, still under construction, replaced a one-story frame house that previously stood on the site. The two-story frame house is sheathed with vinyl siding and has a hipped roof. Windows are six-over-six sash. A hip-roofed porch with slender turned posts shelters the narrow three-bay facade (SM).

### **Carl Poindexter House**

Contributing building

342 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1920

The first known owner of the one-story frame bungalow was Carl Poindexter, an executive with Chatham Manufacturing Company. The vinyl-sided house has a broad side-gable roof with widely overhanging braced eaves and a two-window shed dormer on the front slope. The south half of the front roof slope extends forward to shelter the offset front porch, which is gabled at the projecting south end

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 39

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

---

and has replacement posts. A chimney rises on the south side of the house just front of center. Windows are six-over-six sash; they are paired on the three-bay facade, flanking the center entrance. An ell projects from the rear of the house (SM; R. Smith).

**Foley M. and Jessie A. Norman House**

Contributing building

354 Gwyn Avenue  
1918

The one-and-a-half-story frame bungalow was the home of Foley Norman (1888-1984), his wife, Jessie Alexander Norman (1894-1990), and their family. Foley Norman worked at the J. S. Atkinson Company in Elkin. Later, he and J. O. Bivins owned and operated for thirty-two years the Baskerteria grocery store. Norman also helped organize the Elkin-Jonesville Building and Loan, which he served as president. The house remains in Norman family ownership and occupancy. It has a steep, side-gable roof with peaked, louvered vents in the gable ends and a front shed dormer that has two pairs of sash windows. Brick chimneys rise on the front and rear of the center roof ridge. Although the first story of the house has been sheathed in vinyl siding, the upper half story retains its wood shingles. Windows are nine-over-one and six-over-one sash. An engaged porch with square brick posts carries across the three-bay facade (SM; R. Smith).

**Paul Perkins and Alice Harris Gwyn House**

Contributing building

360 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1920

Paul Perkins Gwyn (1890-1942) and his wife, Alice Harris, were the first known occupants of this one-story frame bungalow. Gwyn operated the Northwestern Insurance Agency in Elkin. The house, now sheathed with vinyl siding, has a broad, front-facing gable roof with smaller intersecting side gables. The treatment of the front gable is particularly noteworthy, with its narrow, five-light horizontal window with louvered vents to either side and in the gable peak. Chimneys rise on the north exterior of the house and on the interior south of the roof ridge. Windows are three-over-one sash. A hip-roofed front porch with tapered wood posts set on brick plinths and an added balustrade shelters the three-bay facade with its center entrance and flanking pairs of windows and wraps around the south end. An ell projects from the rear of the house (SM; R. Smith).

**Professor Zeno H. Dixon House**

Contributing building

366 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1910

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 40

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

Zeno H. Dixon (1864-1951) may have been the original owner of the house for which he was the first known occupant. The Dixons were a family of educators. Professor Dixon served as principal of the Elkin School from 1913 to 1925. Dixon was from Alamance County and was a graduate of Vanderbilt University. Prior to his arrival in Elkin, he had been head of the Yadkinville Normal School. Two of Dixon's daughters became teachers: Blanche taught second grade, and Alice taught at the high school level. Now covered with asbestos shingles, the symmetrical, one-and-a-half-story, frame house has a clipped-gable roof with two steep-roofed, intersecting front gables, each possessing a six-over-six sash window. Other features include a three-bay facade and a wraparound porch with square posts and a replacement lattice balustrade. A late Victorian ironwork fence and gate border the front yard (SM; R. Smith; CH).

### **Swimming Pool**

Noncontributing structure

Last quarter twentieth century

Near the southeast corner of the property is an in-ground swimming pool.

### **Joseph O. and Ohna Poindexter Bivins House**

Contributing building

372 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1925

This one-story frame bungalow was long the home of the Bivins family. Joe Bivins (1891-1961) married Ohna Poindexter in 1919. After living in Doughton, where they operated a general store at the end of the Elkin and Allegheny Railroad line with Foley Norman, and then moving to Gastonia, they returned to Elkin in 1925 to live and work. At that time, Joe Bivins and Foley Norman opened the Baseteria grocery store, which they continued to operate for thirty-two years. Beginning in 1930, Ohna Poindexter Bivins served as the first historian of the Jonathan Hunt Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She was the granddaughter of Thomas Lenoir Gwyn and great-granddaughter of town patriarch Richard Gwyn. The Bivins House has a broad, front-facing gable roof with shaped braces supporting the widely overhanging eaves. The main body of the house has weatherboard siding with beveled corners; the gabled eaves are wood-shingled. The house has both exterior and interior chimneys, and the windows are one-over-one sash. An offset front porch, with a gable roof—lower but otherwise matching the main roof gable—wraps around the southwest corner of the house. The porch, which is now screened, features brick posts with paneled caps and a paneled wood frieze. A matching porte-cochere extends from the south side of the house. A particularly distinctive feature of the property is the use of river rock for a low retaining wall bordering the front yard, the risers of the front walk steps and step to the porch, and the planters located on either side of the front walk steps. The rocks in the step risers are all laid in a herringbone pattern (SM; R. Smith; CH; HSC-1).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 41

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

---

**W. J. Snow House**  
376 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1920

Contributing building

The one-story, weatherboarded frame bungalow is historically associated with W. J. Snow, the county tax collector. The most distinctive features of the house are its prominent roof and porch. The roof has a broad front gable with a horizontal five-light window flanked by trapezoid louvered vents, and smaller side gables, two per side. The gable ends are wood shingled, and the overhanging roof eaves are braced. The expansive wraparound porch is engaged beneath the house roof and features tapered wood posts set on brick plinths. The house has both exterior and interior chimneys, three-over-one sash windows, and a three-bay facade with a center entrance flanked by pairs of windows. Like the yard at 372 Gwyn Avenue, this yard has a river rock low retaining wall, step risers, and round planters (SM: R. Smith).

### GWYN STREET (West Side)

**Mason and Marion Lillard House**  
105 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1910

Contributing building

Thomas Mason Lillard (1870-1943) moved to Elkin from Tennessee in 1891 to work for the Chatham Manufacturing Company. He quickly became active in the community, and in 1896 was listed as a member of both the Elkin Cornet Band and the Elkin Bicycle Club. In 1902, Lillard married Kate Gwyn, but she died two years later. By 1907 Lillard had become secretary of the Chatham Manufacturing Company; he later was promoted to vice-president. Also in 1907, Lillard married his second wife, Marion Howison Kelly (1881-1966). Educated at the North Carolina College for Women in Greensboro, she moved to Elkin in 1901 to become secretary to Hugh Chatham, and in doing so, became the first woman to be employed in the offices of Chatham Manufacturing Company. The Lillard House was probably built ca. 1910, within a few years after the marriage of Mason and Marion. According to Grady Burgiss, writing in the October 4, 1934, issue of *The Elkin Tribune* about Elkin twenty years earlier (1914), the T. M. Lillard House was one of only six brick houses in Elkin at that time. Here the Lillards reared four daughters born between 1909 and 1918. Mason Lillard was an active member of the Methodist church. In 1914 he served on an appointed citizens' committee—with C. E. Holcomb and A. G. Click—to oversee the installation of Elkin's water and sewerage system and to arrange for the town's new lighting system. He was on the original board of trustees of the Hugh Chatham Memorial Hospital when it was established in 1931. Lillard was also on the boards of directors of the Elkin Building and Loan Company, the Elkin National Bank, and the Bilt-Rite Furniture Company, and he served as

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places

## Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 42

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

secretary and treasurer of the Elkin Water Company, directing its operation and growth for many years. His community service continued with his help in surveying, planning, and maintaining Hollywood Cemetery. Marion Lillard also possessed a strong community spirit. Like Mason, she was an active member of the Methodist church. She also was a charter member of the Yadkin Valley Garden Club, the Elkin Woman’s Club, and the Parent-Teacher Association. Accustomed to being a “first” when it came to women’s roles, Marion Lillard was also the first woman member and the secretary-treasurer of the Elkin School Board. Set on a rise above both Gwyn Avenue and Market Street, the Lillard House is a one-and-a-half-story brick dwelling. Its metal-shingled roof consists of multiple front and side intersecting gables; two shed dormers flank the north-side gable. Interior chimneys pierce the roof. A distinctive wraparound porch features grouped Tuscan colonettes set on brick plinths and a turned balustrade. Another, smaller, porch wraps around the northwest corner at the rear of the house. It has turned posts and is screened. On the south side of the house, what was originally an open porch is now a sun room enclosed with jalousie windows. Other windows are one-over-one sash (SM; CH; HSC-1; *Tribune*).

Garage/Apartment  
ca. 1910

Contributing building

Now covered with vinyl siding, the one-and-a-half-story frame garage/apartment has a standing-seam metal hipped roof with intersecting cross gables. A vehicular entrance is on the east side, while an entrance to the upper-level apartment is on the south side. Six-over-six-sash windows are beneath the gables on the east, west, and north sides. Sanborn maps beginning in 1915 label the building as a dwelling for servants (SM).

Shed  
Last quarter twentieth century

Noncontributing building

West of the garage/apartment stands a modern frame shed with vertical-board siding and a shallow gable roof.

Dan Chatham House  
113 Gwyn Avenue  
1922

Contributing building

Dan Chatham, a landscaper, was the original owner of the two-story frame house. It was later owned by Mrs. C. F. Lineberry The house stands on terraced front lawn. Brick forms the front walk, steps, and narrow front terrace. On the south side of the house are rubblestone steps and a rubblestone retaining

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 43

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

---

wall along the driveway. Now sided with vinyl, the house remains a solid example of the Colonial Revival style. The first story is five bays wide, while the second story is three. Windows are six-over-six sash with shutters. At the center of the facade is the sidelighted entrance, sheltered by a classical, pedimented porch with slender Tuscan posts and a modillioned cornice. The side-gable roof has a modillioned cornice across the front and a shed dormer centered on the rear slope. Gable-end brick chimneys are flanked by lunette windows in the gables. A small ell extends from the rear of the house. (SM; R. Smith).

**Playhouse**  
ca. 1950

Contributing building

Southwest of the house stands what appears to be a playhouse. Facing north, the small, vinyl-sided building has a front-gable roof, a door on the north gable end, and a sash window on the west side. A hip-roofed porch with plain wood cornerposts shelters the entrance.

**Garage/Apartment**  
ca. 1922

Contributing building

Northwest of the house near the rear property line stands the two-story garage/apartment. Now vinyl-sided, the frame building has a side-gable roof, a chimney on the south end, pedestrian doors on the east side and a double garage with a shed roof on the rear (west side). Windows are mostly six-over-six sash (SM).

**Shed**  
Last quarter twentieth century

Noncontributing building

A modern frame shed stands at the rear of the property. It has vertical-board siding, a side-gable roof, and barn-like doors—a single and a double—on the east side.

**Gwyn-Chatham-Gwyn House**  
121 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1872; 1911; 1936

Contributing building

Around 1872, Richard Ransome Gwyn built the core of this large house. However, at that time the house was a more simple, traditional dwelling and faced south on the property toward Market Street. Richard Ransome Gwyn (1825-1894), son of town patriarch Richard Gwyn, was an important early industrialist and civic leader in Elkin. In 1848 he was one of the incorporators of the Elkin Manufacturing Company,

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 44

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

a cotton mill. In 1889 R. R. Gwyn and his brother, T. L. Gwyn, were among the first town commissioners in Elkin. Probably most important, in terms of the development of the historic district, R. R. Gwyn sold most of his land, retaining his homeplace, to the Elkin Land Company in 1890 to be laid out into streets, blocks, and lots (residential and commercial) for the planned development of the new town. Most of the historic district lies within the land that Gwyn sold. In 1905 Grace Gwyn, granddaughter of R. R. Gwyn, married Alexander Chatham Jr., and apparently soon thereafter, they became owners of the house. In 1911 the Chathams turned the house to face Gwyn Avenue and added the center-bay classical portico and the one-story wraparound classical porch. In 1912 or 1913 Thomas Lenoir Gwyn (1842-1934) and his family moved back to Elkin from Virginia (where they had been living since the 1890s) and purchased the Gwyn Avenue house. Like his brother Richard Ransome, Thomas Lenoir Gwyn was heavily involved with the early industrial and civic life of Elkin, and when he died, he was hailed as Elkin's "Grand Old Man." Of particular significance to the historic district's development, in 1897 T. L. Gwyn and his wife, Amelia Dickenson, sold approximately six-and-a-half acres to the town commissioners for the earliest section of Hollywood Cemetery. In 1893, Sarah Julia Gwyn (1867-1959), a daughter of T. L. and Amelia Gwyn, married Van H. Poindexter (1865-1944), an employee of the Veneer Box Company. With her parents, they moved from Virginia back to Elkin and 121 Gwyn Avenue. The house remained in Poindexter family ownership until 1979. In 1936, during Poindexter ownership, fire damaged the house. As a result, the gable roof was replaced, and its lower pitch and widely overhanging braced eaves added a touch of the Craftsman style to the house. The two-story, weatherboarded frame house with its primary blend of Colonial Revival and Neo-Classical Revival stylistic features seems even larger than it is because of its location on a rise of land above the street and its two-story portico and over-sized one-story wraparound porch. River rock front steps, like those found at the north end of Gwyn Avenue, rise to the center entrance bay of the porch. The wraparound porch features fluted Doric columns, a turned balustrade, and a dentiled frieze. At the center of the three-bay facade, a two-level portico with heroic Doric columns rises to a gabled roof. Between the two levels is a bowed paneled and dentiled frieze. The upper level of the central porch has a turned balustrade and a dentiled frieze that continues around the house. In the porch gable is a round window. The center-bay entrance has an oval glass and wood door with beveled-glass sidelights; the upper-porch entrance takes the same form but is more simple. Other features of the house include mostly one-over-one sash windows with louvered shutters on the front, a two-story bay window on the south side, a pair of interior chimneys, a one-story wing on the north side near the rear of the house, and a one-story rear ell extended westward in recent years to form a large screened porch. The property has five modern secondary resources behind the house (Deeds; SM; C. Smith; CH; ST; HSC-1; *Tribune*; Hickerson).

**Swimming Pool**

Last quarter twentieth century

Noncontributing structure



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 45

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

---

Behind the house is an in-ground swimming pool surrounded by low shrubbery and a chainlink fence.

### **Pump House**

Noncontributing building

Last quarter twentieth century

West of (behind) the pool is a small, square, frame pump house with a stuccoed masonry foundation, vinyl siding, and a pyramidal roof.

### **Storage Shed**

Noncontributing building

ca. 2000

A modern frame storage shed stands near the south property line. It has a concrete-block foundation, vinyl German siding, and a corrugated-metal gable roof. On the west end is a garage-type door; on the north side are a center pedestrian door flanked by two four-over-four sash windows.

### **Building**

Noncontributing building

Last quarter twentieth century

In the northwest corner of the property stands a two-story, rectangular, frame building that may be a workshop on the first story and an apartment on the second story. The first-story is wider than the second, with a pent roof creating the transition between the two. The east end has two garage doors, and the roof at that end overhangs, supported by slender wood posts. The upper floor has a dentiled cornice band mimicking that of the house, and windows are one-over-one sash and often grouped. At the east end are what appears to be a fixed double-leaf wood and glass door. Topped by a gable roof, the building is vinyl-sided.

### **Garage**

Noncontributing building

Last quarter twentieth century

Immediately northwest of the house is a one-story, vinyl-sided frame, two-bay garage with a side-gable roof

### **Alexander Martin Smith House**

Contributing building

131 Gwyn Avenue  
1893-1897

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 46

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

Local industrialist Alexander Martin Smith (1866-1844) was the original owner of this large Queen Anne-style house, which remains in the ownership and occupancy of his descendants more than a century later. In high-style Queen Anne fashion, the two-and-a-half-story frame house has an asymmetrical configuration, a variety of surface textures, and is richly decorated with a wealth of exterior and interior details. It possesses a brick foundation, a combination of novelty and decorative wood-shingle siding, a steep hipped and gabled roof with bracketed eaves, a tower and a turret, a "half-timbered" front gable with *objets trouves* work, bargeboards and friezes, decorative brick chimneys, a curving wraparound front porch with turned and sawnwork ornamentation as well as a rear porch, small second-story porches on front and rear, one-over-one sash windows, curved diamond-paned windows, stained glass, and myriad other features. The house has had very few alterations over the years. Alexander Martin Smith came to Elkin in 1892 from the Lynchburg, Virginia area and soon established the Elkin Shoe Company, one of Elkin's important early industries. The company, which included a tannery in its facilities, primarily manufactured shoes and was well known especially for its work shoe—the Elkin Homemade or Brogan Shoe. It also produced horse collars and harnesses. Starting with a work force of eight men and a capacity of twelve pairs of shoes a day, the company had increased to 225 workers with a production rate of 1,200 to 1,500 pairs of shoes a day by 1914. Family history asserts that the house was begun in 1893. However, it was not occupied until December 14, 1897. Interestingly, Smith did not obtain a deed for the house, from the estate of R. R. Gwyn, until January 14, 1899. During the construction years, Smith was married twice. Both of his wives died prior to the completion of the house. In March 1892 he married Frances "Fannie" Gwyn, daughter of Richard Ransome Gwyn. She died in 1895. The following year, Smith married Carrie Gwyn, daughter of Thomas Lenoir Gwyn; her untimely death came in 1897. (In 1902, Smith married his third wife, Margaret Purcell.) While the house was under construction, the Smith family lived next door at 121 Gwyn Avenue with the R. R. Gwyn family. A. M. Smith acquired the design for the house from George Franklin Barber, a popular Knoxville architect who specialized in mail-order designs. T. A. Dean from Salem supervised the construction. Three hundred kegs of nails were used in building the house, which cost \$8,000. In 1948, after Smith's death, his grandson, Alexander Martin Smith II, and his wife, Claire, moved into the house, which is now owned by their daughters. A. M. Smith II was the inventor of a machine that produced fabric directly from fiber, byassing the spinning of yarn. The process, called "Fiberwoven," contributed to the success of the Chatham Manufacturing Company in the 1960s and 1970s (ST; *Journal*; Hickerson; C. Smith; SCAS; MMS; Deeds).

**Richard Gwyn and Margaret Ray Harvison Smith House**  
151 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1918

Contributing building

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 47

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

Richard Gwyn Smith (1892-1974), the son of A. M. and Carrie Gwyn Smith, married Margaret Ray Harvison in 1917. Soon thereafter they built this house at the north end of the property on which his parents' house stood (131 Gwyn Avenue). The two houses remained on a single tract until around 1961, when the property was divided. The house remained in Smith family ownership until the mid 1980s. R. G. Smith began his career as a shoe salesman for his father's firm, the Elkin Shoe Company. In 1932 he started his own business, the Elkin Tanning Company, which not only tanned hides, but soon added the processing of wool from sheepskins with a wool pullery. During the Depression, Smith had a contract with the State of North Carolina for making horse collars, which the state then distributed to farmers. The wool from the pullery operation he sold to Chatham Manufacturing Company for their wool blanket production. In later years Smith had a leather shop which produced, among other things, dog collars that were made from the scraps of the leather hides and then shipped to Alabama, where the Sunshine Dog Food Company added them to bags of dog food as a bonus. The R. G. and A. M. Smith houses are separated by an expansive, landscaped lawn that slopes downward between the two, creating a park-like setting. The house stands far back from the street and is set at an angle to it, facing southeast. Although the house appears to have been designed by an architect, the name of the architect is not known. The large, two-story dwelling exhibits a combination of the Tudor Revival and Craftsman styles. It has an asymmetrical form, stuccoed walls, and a steep gabled roof with half-timbering in the front and side gable ends, which also have decorative bargeboards and a slightly projecting bracketed cornice. The house has a combination of sash and casement windows, many of which have paneled shutters. All first-story windows of the facade and the southwest end of the house have transoms. At the southwest end of the house is a sunroom that projects forward from the facade. A pent roof at first-story height extends from the sunroom across the center portion of the facade to the two-story projecting wing at the northeast end. It is pierced by a picturesque, granite, front chimney, and incorporates the bracketed entrance hood at the northeast end. The front entrance has a Craftsman-style door with sidelights and a transom. A second granite chimney rises from the gable ridge of the northeast wing. Extending from the northeast end of the house is a one-story, shed-roofed wing. The rear of the house is very plain, but like the front, it is stuccoed and has projecting and receding planes. A large, wraparound deck is attached to the rear of the house. Steps lead down to a terraced garden (R. Smith; CH; SM).

## Garage

Last quarter twentieth century

Noncontributing building

Behind the northeast corner of the house and set at an angle to the house so that it faces the street is a one-story, two-car, frame garage with German siding and a gable roof. At the rear of the garage is an extension with one or more rooms and a door and exterior wood stair leading

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 48

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

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down to the garden.

**Carl Myers House**  
211 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1935

Contributing building

Carl Myers was the original owner of this one-and-a-half-story brick house. It replaced a two-story frame house that had been the home of Hugh Madison. The unusual house has a broad, front-facing gable roof with a smaller, projecting gable on each side and vertical stick work in the gable ends. There are both exterior and interior chimneys, and windows are six-over-one sash. The three-bay facade features a central entrance with a classical entrance porch and flanking triple windows. The south-side porch was added after 1942 (SM; R. Smith).

**Garage**  
ca. 1935

Contributing building

Behind the house stands a matching, one-story, single-bay, brick garage with a gable roof, vertical stick work in the gable ends, and a double-leaf vehicular door

**Lacy J. Bray House**  
219 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1895

Contributing building

Lacy Jasper Bray (1859-1930), the original owner of this house moved to Elkin in the 1890s to operate the Elkin Roller Mill for the Chatham family. He later purchased the mill and operated it for many years. An 1896 deed describes this location as the lot "whereon L. J. Bray has erected a dwelling house," and local tradition claims that this was the Bray family home. Around 1934, Dr. Hugh Clay Salmons (of 129 Church Street) purchased the house for his mother and sister, who had been living at the home of his brother, Dr. L. R. Salmons, in Winston-Salem (637 North Spring Street). The two-story, frame house, now covered with vinyl siding, is typical of many simple two-story houses built during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It is three bays wide and one room deep with a two-story rear ell. The triple-A gable roof, with round-arched vents in the gable ends, is pierced by a pair of central interior chimneys. Windows are one-over-one sash, and the center-bay entrance has sidelights. A one-story porch with slender Tuscan columns wraps across the front and south side of the house. A low rock retaining wall borders the front yard (SM; R. Smith; Salmons; HSC-1).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 49

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

### **Shed**

Noncontributing building

Last quarter twentieth century

Behind the house stands a small frame shed with vertical-board siding and a gable-roof.

### **James Lewis and Iola K. Lillard House**

Contributing building

231 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1910

This was the long-time home of the James and Iola Lillard family, who may have been the original owners. Jim Lillard, the brother of Mason Lillard (105 Gwyn Avenue), came to Elkin in the early years of the twentieth century and worked in various capacities at Chatham Manufacturing Company. The one-story frame house, now covered with asbestos-shingle siding, has a side-gable roof with an intersecting front gable. A diamond-shaped louvered vent decorates each gable end. Windows include three-over-one, two-over-two, and one-over-one sash. A bay window projects from the north side of the house, and two pairs of windows flank the center-bay entrance. The house has a hip-roofed, partial front porch with tapered-wood posts set on brick plinths. A sunroom was added to the south side of the house between 1925 and 1942 (SM; R. Smith; Dillon; HSC-1).

### **Garage Ruins**

Noncontributing building

Mid twentieth century

Northwest of the house next to an alley stand the ruins of a garage. Only three concrete-block walls remain of the one-story structure.

### **Alley**

A driveway-like alley runs between 231 and 239 Gwyn Avenue.

### **M. R. Bailey House**

Contributing building

239 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1910

The two-story frame house was the home of M. R. Bailey, who was superintendent of the Elkin Furniture Company, which manufactured sideboards and buffets. Bailey came to the furniture company in 1907 from a furniture plant in Talledega, Alabama. The shape of the house forms a sideways T, with the top of the T running east-west at the north end of the building. Now covered in vinyl German siding, the house has a severely clipped gable roof, interior chimneys, and four-over-

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 50

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

four sash windows. Originally, and as late as 1983, the roof eaves were bracketed. A hip-roofed porch with tapered wood posts carries across the south two bays of the three-bay facade. The central entrance has a glass-and-wood-paneled door with sidelights. Steps rising from the front walk to the porch are detailed with risers made of stones laid in a herringbone pattern. A one-story ell projects from the north end of the rear of the house, and what was originally a rear porch is now enclosed. A shed-roofed garage, built after 1942, attaches to the rear of the house. A low, rubble stone retaining wall borders the front yard (SM; R. Smith; Canipe; CH).

### **R. P. Crater House**

Contributing building

245 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1905

On April 8, 1905, R. P. Crater (1864-1922) purchased two lots at the southwest corner of Gwyn Avenue and Spring Street from the Elkin Land Company. He probably built his one-story frame house soon thereafter. Little is known about R. P. Crater; however, he was likely the Crater of the Crater, Sale and Company general merchandise store listed in *Branson's Business Directory* for 1903. Older Elkin residents remember the house as being the home of Effie Crater (1893-1977) or Rufus Crater, two of the children of R. P. and Maggie B. Crater. Effie Crater taught piano lessons for many years in Elkin. Reflecting a typical version of the Queen Anne style used for many one-story houses in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the house has a steep, central, hipped roof with north front and south side gabled wings, the north wing with a three-sided bay end. The front slope of the central roof has a hip-roofed dormer with three tilt windows, and the north slope of the roof has a gabled dormer. Both front dormer and gable windows are of the Queen Anne style, with a large central pane bordered by small panes. The house, now vinyl-sided, has both interior and exterior chimneys, two-over-two sash windows, and a wraparound porch with a pedimented corner bay and replacement fluted columns. The original porch at the rear of the house has been enclosed, and a deck has been attached to it (SM; Deeds; R. Smith; Key).

### **Storage Building**

Noncontributing building

Last quarter twentieth century

Southwest of the house stands a small, metal storage building with a shallow gable roof and a double-leaf door on the north side.

### **(Intersection with East Spring Street)**

### **Causey House**

Contributing building

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 51

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

303 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1945

The earliest family known to have been associated with this house—possibly the first owner—was the Causey family. Stylistically, the one-and-a-half-story frame dwelling is a cross between a simple Period Cottage and a Minimal Traditional house. It has a steep side-gable roof with a projecting gabled bay at the north end of the facade. The remainder of the facade consists of a central entrance, a brick chimney, and a one-over-one sash window. Attached to the south end of the house is a side-gabled porch with turned posts and a plain balustrade; an ell projects from the rear of the house, which has been sheathed in vinyl siding (SM; R. Smith).

### Parking Lot

Currently the gravel-imbedded asphalt parking lot for the Trinity Christian Center at 300 North Bridge Street, this previously was the site of the large, one-story frame home of Walter E. Nichols. He was editor of *The Elkin Tribune* and brother of newspaper manager Grady Nichols, who lived behind him at 310 North Bridge Street (SM: Laffoon).

**Storage Shed**  
ca. 2000

Noncontributing building

A small, modern storage shed with a gable roof and a door at one gable end stands near the northwest corner of the parking lot.

**Minish House**  
321 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1905

Contributing building

The Minish family were early owners of this one-story, vernacular, late Queen Anne-style house. Although the names of the first Minishes are not known, their son, William Nathan Minish (1870-1932), and daughter-in-law, Annie Brendle Minish (of the Brendles who lived at 331 Gwyn Avenue), moved back to the house when their own home at the east end of East Spring Street burned in 1929. Typical of its house type, the frame dwelling has a central hipped roof with multiple intersecting front and side gables—each with a pedimented louvered vent—and a hip-roofed front dormer. Windows are two-over-two sash. Originally the house had a wraparound porch and a rear service porch, but the south side of the wraparound porch and the rear porch were enclosed post 1983. The house is sheathed with vinyl siding (SM; Hughes; R. Smith; SCAS).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 52      Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

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**Garage**  
ca. 1915

Contributing building

Northwest of the house at the rear of the driveway stands a one-story, single-bay, weatherboarded frame garage with a hipped roof and a double-leaf vehicular door. A shed with solar panels on the roof has been attached to the south side of the garage.

**Edward Lawrence House**  
327 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1930

Contributing building

Edward Lawrence operated what is purported to be the oldest dry cleaning business in Elkin, located on West Main Street. The Lawrence family was the earliest associated with the one-and-a-half-story brick bungalow. The house has a broad side-gable roof with braced eaves, a chimney and a shallow bay window on the north side, basketweave brick courses at water table height and above the first story, and six-over-one sash windows. The north two bays of the three-bay facade are sheltered by an off-center porch with brick corner posts set on brick plinths and an openwork brick balustrade (SM; R. Smith; CH; DEHD).

**Garage**  
ca. 1930

Contributing building

Behind the house stands a one-story, pyramidal-roofed, brick garage.

**James Free and Cynthia Tulbert Brendle House**  
331 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1910

Contributing building

The first known owners of the house were James Free and Cynthia Tulbert Brendle, the parents of nine children. The oldest, Annie Laurie, married William Nathan Minish, whose family lived at 321 Gwyn Avenue. Metal worker Paul Eidson lived here after the Brendles, and for many years the house has been owned by the Claude Eldridge family. The two-story frame dwelling, now vinyl-sided, has a hipped roof, two-over-two sash windows, a three-bay facade, and a wraparound porch with turned posts, sawnwork brackets, and a replacement or added balustrade. Most of the south side of the porch has been enclosed (SM; R. Smith; C. Smith; Hughes; HSC-1).

**Garage/Apartment**

Contributing building



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 53

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

---

ca. 1950

At the rear of the driveway on the north side of the house is a two-story garage/apartment with a concrete-block first story with a pent roof sheltering the pedestrian and garage doors, an asbestos-shingled second story, a gable roof, six-over-six sash windows, and wooden stairs and porch on the south side.

### **Storage Shed**

Noncontributing building

Last quarter twentieth century

Southeast of the garage stands a pre-fabricated, one-story, corrugated-metal storage building with a gable roof and a double-leaf entrance on the north end.

### **Rabbit Hutch**

Noncontributing structure

Last quarter twentieth century

Between the rear of the house and the north-side driveway is a frame rabbit hutch on wood stilts. It has a corrugated-metal shed roof and screened openings on the west side.

### **Sheffie and Helen Graham House**

Contributing building

345 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1905

Early owners of the house were Sheffie and Helen Graham. Sheffie was a postal worker, and Helen was a nurse. The one-story frame house has a hipped roof with intersecting cross gables, two-over-two sash windows, a three-bay facade, and a hipped-roof front porch with turned posts, sawnwork brackets, and an added balustrade. The house is now sheathed with vinyl German siding, and vinyl shingles cover the gable ends (SM; R. Smith).

### **Gazebo**

Noncontributing structure

ca. 2000

A frame octagonal gazebo reminiscent of late-Victorian-period gazebos stands on a large lot south of the Graham House. A two-story frame house, the home of sisters Madge and Minnie Russell, stood on the site until burning sometime between 1925 and 1942 (SM; R. Smith).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 54

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

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**W. Cone Cox House**

Contributing building

351 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1910

The earliest known occupant of the one-story frame house was William Cone Cox (1890-1969), an executive with Chatham Manufacturing Company. Now sheathed with vinyl siding, the house has a truncated hipped roof with intersecting gables on the front and south side. A diamond-shaped louvered vent decorates the front gable. The house has an interior chimney, shed rooms across the rear, and two-over-two sash windows. Originally a wraparound porch with turned posts, sawnwork brackets and a turned balustrade carried across the three-bay facade and around the south side of the house. At some point between 1942 and 1983, the side porch was replaced by a gabled room whose front is flush with the main facade. The porch balustrade has been removed since 1983 (SM; R. Smith).

**M. Q. Snow House**

Contributing building

357 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1915

M. Quilla Snow (1881-1972) is believed to have been the original owner of this one-and-a-half-story house. He owned and operated the Snow Clothing Company store (no longer standing) at the same location in the 100 block of West Main Street for fifty-eight years, from 1905 to 1963. He also served on the Surry County Commission for approximately thirty years. Charles Colhard was a later occupant of the house. The weatherboarded frame dwelling exhibits an unusual combination of form and details. It has a broad three-bay-wide first story and an upper half story framed within an expansive, metal-shingle-sheathed, front-facing gambrel roof, giving the house a barn-like appearance. Contradicting this feeling are the first-story wraparound porch with turned posts and the upper half-story, center-bay porch with its turned posts, plain balustrade, and pedimented roof. Both the upper porch pedimented gable and the triangular peak of the gambrel roof are decorated with square-cut wood shingles. Windows are one-over-one and four-over-four sash, and a decorative window in the upper porch gable has a center diamond surrounded by squares (SM; R. Smith; DEHD).

**Herbert P. Graham House**

Contributing building

371 Gwyn Avenue  
ca. 1920

Herbert P. Graham (1883-1973) was the first owner of this large Craftsman house. In the late 1920s,

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7Page 55

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

he was a founder of the Biltrite Furniture Company. He was also a Sinclair Oil distributor, and for some years during the 1930s and 1940s (at least in 1935 and 1945) he was mayor pro tem of Elkin. The one-and-a-half-story house is one of the most distinctive Craftsman houses in Elkin. The first story is weatherboarded with beveled corners, while the upper story is stuccoed. The house has a side-gable roof with widely overhanging eaves. Each side gable has a pair of sash windows flanked by a pair of quarter-circle fan windows and a circular louvered vent beneath the gable peak, all set within decorative stick work or “half timbering.” An off-center, picturesque brick chimney rises on each side of the house. Gabled dormers are found on the front and rear slopes of the roof. A porch with a broad gable roof shelters the first story of the three-bay facade. It has granite posts and skirt, and the gable is sheathed with vertical boards with diamond-shaped overlays. All gables have narrow bargeboards with notched ends. Most of the house’s windows are Craftsman-style sash. However, diamond-muntined windows flank the north chimney, and a group of casement windows is on the south side. The rear of the house has original engaged shed rooms, a deck, and an attached “summer house”—raised off the ground, surrounded by a balustrade and screens, and topped by a pyramidal roof. The deck and summer house are additions from recent years. The house sits on a rise of land, a large lot at the corner of Gwyn Avenue and North Bridge Street. The steps at the sidewalk are stone, and the rear driveway has a low stone retaining wall (SM; R. Smith; CH).

GarageContributing building

ca. 1930

Southwest of the house is a garage with rubble stone walls and larger, cut stones at each corner. It has a hipped roof and a double-leaf entrance that faces west (SM).

MILL VIEW ROAD (West Side)

Priscilla and Evelyn Howard HouseContributing building

143 Mill View Road

ca. 1950

Priscilla and Evelyn Howard were the original occupants of the house. Priscilla, at least, worked at Chatham Mill just east of the house. The house is a one-story, brick, Minimal Traditional style dwelling with a side-gable roof, an interior chimney, and a front gable with a round ventilator highlighting the central entrance bay. A secondary entrance is on the south side of the house (Phillips).

CarportNoncontributing structure

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 56

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

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Late twentieth century

Just south of the house stands a metal-frame carport with a slightly pitched roof and lattice across the south side and rear.

**George Isenhour House**  
147 Mill View Road  
ca. 1950

Contributing building

This was the home of George Isenhour who, for thirty-five years, owned Isenhour Jewelers at 113 East Main Street. During the 1960s, he also served as mayor of Elkin. The house is a one-story, brick, Minimal Traditional style dwelling with a side-gable roof, a projecting right front gabled bay, and a two-bay engaged porch across the remainder of the three-bay facade with square brick posts and a plain balustrade. Other features include one-over-one sash windows and a chimney to front of center of the south side (Phillips; Gregory; CH; DEHD).

### **EAST SPRING STREET (North Side)**

#### **Alley**

**House**  
123 East Spring Street  
ca. 1915

Contributing building

The original owner of this house is not known. The property was purchased in 1909 by Charles G. and Laura Annie Darnell as part of a triangular tract north of Spring Street and east of the alley behind the 300 block of Gwyn Avenue. At one time the house was occupied by Chatham Mill worker Manly Hodge (or Manley Hodges), prior to his occupancy ca. 1945 and thereafter of the house at 320 North Bridge Street. The house is a simple one-story, weatherboarded, frame bungalow with a hipped roof, wood-shingled hipped dormers, and an engaged porch with square posts and a plain balustrade across the three-bay facade. Windows are two-over-two sash, and on either side of the house is a slightly projecting bay window (SM; Deed; Phillips).

**Darnell-Cockerham House**  
127 East Spring Street  
ca. 1910

Contributing building

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 57

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

It is likely that the house was built by Charles G. and Laura Annie Darnell, who purchased the property in 1909 (see 123 East Spring Street). However, the house is also associated with T. V. Cockerham, who lived here and operated a small store on the property, probably in the 1930s and 1940s, since the Darnells died in 1933 and 1934, respectively. Set on a hillock above the street, the house is a one-story, weatherboarded frame dwelling with a triple-A roof with a pointed-arch louvered vent in each gable end. Windows are two-over-two sash. The three-bay front porch with grouped posts has been altered by the removal of the wood floor. An ell extends from the rear of the house (SM; Deeds; Phillips).

### **Shed**

Noncontributing building

Last quarter twentieth century

Behind (northwest of) the house stands a one-story frame shed with vertical-board siding, a gable roof, and a door at the east end.

### **(Intersection with Wiles Street/Ridge Street)**

### **Sparks House**

Contributing building

143 East Spring Street  
ca. 1920

This one-story, gable-front frame house features weatherboard siding, a pair of windows in each gable end, and overhanging eaves with exposed rafter and purlin ends. A shed-roofed porch with tapered wood posts set on stone plinths with a stone foundation extends across the three-bay facade, and a shed-roofed porch with turned posts and an enclosed east-end bay extends across the rear of the house. The 1925 and 1942 Sanborn maps indicate that the rear porch once wrapped around the northwest corner of the house to shelter an entrance on the west side. Now there is a separate gabled porch with tapered wood posts on brick plinths at the west entrance. A low stone retaining wall borders the front edge of the property (SM; Gregory).

### **Shed**

Noncontributing building

Third quarter twentieth century

A small metal shed stands behind the house.

### **Herman and Lorene Royall House**

Contributing building

149 East Spring Street

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 58

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

---

ca. 1950

Built on a vacant lot by Chatham Mill employee Herman Royall, the one-story rubble stone house remains owned and occupied by members of his family. Herman Royall was married to Lorene Long, whose family lived at 171 East Spring Street. The nearly square modern house has a shallow hipped roof with overhanging boxed eaves, a hefty front chimney as well as a rear chimney, a three-bay facade with a central entrance, and an added front porch across the west two bays that is created by a metal canopy supported by slender ironwork posts. A low, stone retaining wall borders the front and east side of the property and the west-side driveway (Gregory; Phillips).

### **Garage/Shed**

Contributing building

ca. 1950

At the rear of the driveway west of the house stands a one-story, single-bay stone garage with a hipped roof that encompasses an open shed on the east side.

### **Shed**

Noncontributing building

Last quarter twentieth century

East of the stone garage stands a modern frame shed. The one-story structure has vertical board siding, a shallow front-gable roof, and a double-leaf barn-like door.

### **West House**

Contributing building

155 East Spring Street  
ca. 1910

Although the one-story frame house has been remodeled, its form still conveys the appearance of simple mill housing dating from the early twentieth century. Now sheathed with vinyl siding, the three-bay-wide house has a side-gable roof, six-over-six sash windows, and a rear ell. The original full-facade porch has been replaced with an entrance porch with a shallow gable and lattice on the sides, while the porch on the east side of the rear ell has been enclosed. The house is remembered by elderly neighborhood residents as the home of Annie West and her sisters (SM: Gregory).

### **Shed**

Noncontributing building

Last quarter twentieth century

Northeast of the house stands a modern, one-story, metal shed with a shallow gable roof and a

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 59

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

double-leaf door on the south side.

### **Mickle House**

Contributing building

161 East Spring Street  
ca. 1905

This is the only two-story house on East Spring Street and may predate the other houses on the street. The vernacular dwelling is three bays wide and one room deep with a one-story central rear ell. Sheathed with weatherboard siding, it rises to a side-gable roof covered with standing-seam metal. A central brick chimney pierces the roof ridge. Windows are one-over-one sash with molded surrounds. Although it does not carry across the full facade, the one-story, hip-roofed, front porch shelters the center entrance and flanking windows. The porch features chamfered posts and a plain balustrade. According to Marjorie Long Gregory (b. 1917), this was the Mickle House. Her parents, Zura B. Long (1886-1944) and Bessie Mickle Long (1896-1974), rented the house when they first married, before building their own home next door (SM; Gregory).

### **Shed**

Noncontributing building

Third quarter twentieth century

At the rear of the house stands a small frame shed with what appears to be plain plywood siding and a flat roof.

### **Zura Edward and Bessie Mickle Long House**

Contributing building

171 East Spring Street  
ca. 1926

After living in the Mickle House at 161 East Spring Street during the early years of their marriage, Zura and Bessie Long purchased this property, tore down a one-story mill house, and built this one-and-a-half-story frame bungalow that was both larger than the demolished house and more to their liking. Zura was a foreman at the Elkin Furniture Factory and Bessie worked at Chatham Mill. The house remains in family ownership and occupancy. Covered with asbestos-shingle siding, the house has a broad, side-gable roof with overhanging, braced eaves and a center brick chimney. Windows are six-over-six sash, mostly in pairs, and some are shaded by metal awnings. The front porch features a broad gable roof with braced eaves and tapered wood posts set on brick plinths. It shelters the center entrance and flanking windows of the three-bay facade. A low stone retaining wall borders the front of the property (SM; Gregory).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 60

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

### **Shed**

Contributing building

Mid twentieth century

Far behind the house stands a long, one-story, frame shed with vertical board siding, a nearly flat shed roof, and an entrance on the south side.

### **Garage**

Contributing building

Mid twentieth century

East of the house stands a one-story, two-part garage, doubtless built in two stages but now joined together. The north half is of frame construction with a single bay and a nearly flat shed roof. The south half is constructed of concrete blocks and has a single bay sheltered by a gable roof.

### **EAST SPRING STREET (South Side)**

#### **Alley**

### **Chatham Manufacturing Company House**

Contributing building

128 East Spring Street  
ca. 1910; ca. 1990

Chatham Manufacturing Company purchased property at this approximate location in 1907 and apparently built some houses on the south side of East Spring Street soon thereafter for mill employees. At that time, the area had already been known as Chatham Park for at least a decade. The historical extent of Chatham Park is not known, but early deeds make it clear that the Chatham company did not own all the houses, especially those on the north side of East Spring Street. In 1939 a plat was drawn of Chatham Park (showing only property on the south side of East Spring Street) for owner Chatham Manufacturing Company. Eight houses were shown on the ten lots included, and names of current occupants were provided. At that time, this house was occupied by Arlie Cockerham. Although enlarged and remodeled, the original form of one-story frame house can still be understood in the present building. Originally, the house was three bays wide with a side-gable roof, a front porch, and a rear ell. In its enlarged form, one-bay wings have been added to either side of the house, their gable roofs being of the same pitch but slightly lower than the roof over the original portion of the house. A deck has been added to the rear ell, and the house has been sheathed in vinyl German siding (Deeds; Plat of CP; Waldrep; Phillips).



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 61

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

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### Vacant Lot

An early twentieth century Chatham house was located on this lot. Around 1960 it was replaced by a modern mobile home. The mobile home was removed during the winter of 2006, leaving the lot vacant.

### Chatham Manufacturing Company House

Contributing building

144 East Spring Street  
ca. 1910; mid-twentieth century

The house is a one-story, weatherboarded frame dwelling with a hipped roof, an interior chimney, a rear ell, and a hip-roofed front porch with plain posts. Windows are six-over-six sash. The house was originally three bays wide with a center-bay entrance and a central chimney. Probably around mid century, after the house had been sold into private ownership, a bay was added to the west side and the hipped roof was extended to encompass the whole. With the addition, the chimney and the porch were no longer centered. Somewhat later, a shed-roofed carport surrounded by lattice was attached to the west end of the house. In 1939 the house was occupied by Walter Barnett (SM; Plat of CP).

### Bert and Iva Lee Phillips House

Contributing building

150 East Spring Street  
1946

Guy Hinson (see 156 East Spring Street) gave this lot to his daughter and son-in-law, Iva Lee and Bert Phillips. Both Guy Hinson and Bert Phillips worked at Chatham Mill. Originally, one of the frame Chatham Manufacturing Company houses stood on the site. In 1946 the Phillipses built the present house, which is still owned and occupied by Mrs. Phillips. It is a one-and-a-half-story, cut granite, Minimal Traditional dwelling with a side-gable roof, a south-side chimney, and six-over-six sash windows. The three-bay facade has a central entrance with a small gabled porch supported by ironwork posts. A gable-roofed porch, also supported by ironwork posts, extends from the east side of the house, and a frame shed room is on the rear (Phillips).

### Shed

Noncontributing building

Last quarter twentieth century

Just west of the house is a low, frame shed with open sides. Because of the sharp drop in topography, the shed can barely be seen from the street.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 62

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

**Guy Hinson House**  
156 East Spring Street  
1940

Contributing building

Chatham Mill employee Guy Hinson lived in the Chatham Manufacturing Company house that earlier stood on this site. When Chatham sold its houses to private owners, Hinson bought his house, demolished it, and built the present one-story frame bungalow. The aluminum-sided house features a broad, front-gable roof and gabled wings that project a short distance from the east side of the house and from the left front. A side-gable porch with ironwork posts set on brick plinths shelters the remainder of the facade and the front portion of the west side of the house. The house has west side and rear chimneys and three-over-one sash windows. A low rock retaining wall runs along the west side of the front yard (Plat of CP; Phillips; SM).

**Garage**  
ca. 1950

Contributing building

Southwest of the house stands a one-story, concrete-block garage with a flat roof. Divided into a double bay on the east and a single bay on the west, it was doubtless used by both the interrelated Hinson and Phillips houses.

**Chatham Manufacturing Company House**  
160 East Spring Street

Contributing building

ca. 1910; ca. 1945

Like several other houses on the street, this one was originally a mill employee house owned by Chatham Manufacturing Company. In 1939 it was occupied by Jesse Buelin. After Chatham sold the one-story frame dwelling around 1940, it was enlarged. Now covered with asbestos-shingle siding, the house has a side-gable roof, a shed-roofed front porch with lattice posts and balustrade, and a rear ell. The left front projecting wing is an addition (Plat of CP; Phillips; SM).

**Chatham Manufacturing Company House**  
164 East Spring Street  
ca. 1920

Contributing building

Although originally a Chatham Mill house, the plain one-story frame bungalow appears to have been built after the first houses on the street but by 1925. In 1939 Eugene Phillips was the occupant. The

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 63

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

house has a broad, side-gable roof, a central chimney, an engaged front porch with plain posts and balustrade, and rear shed rooms and deck. The house is currently sheathed with vinyl siding (Plat of CP; SM).

### WEST SPRING STREET (South Side)

**John Henry and Helen Beeson House**  
205 West Spring Street  
1941

Contributing building

The house is a one-and-a-half-story Cape Cod version of the Colonial Revival style that was popular into the 1950s. The first story is brick, while the upper half story is weatherboarded. The house has a steep side-gable roof with two front gabled dormers, a rear shed dormer, and a central brick chimney. At the center of the three-bay facade, the classical entrance has a paneled surround. A one-room, gabled wing is set back extends from the east side of the house; a deck and screened porch has been added to the west end of the rear of the house. John Henry Beeson was an executive with the Bank of Elkin when it was formed in the 1920s. Helen Beeson directed a glee club of fifty girls sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary in 1937. After both Beesons died in 1985, the house was purchased by the present owners (SM; CH; White).

**Ted and Avis Brown House**  
227 West Spring Street  
1939

Contributing building

Until Avis Brown's death in 2005, she and Ted were the sole occupants of the house since its construction. To mark the date of construction, they placed a stone date block on the side of the central chimney that says, "Avis & Ted Oct 1939." Ted Brown was a volunteer fireman in 1936 who later became Elkin's long-time fire chief. He also owned Brown Machine Company across the river in Jonesville. In 1930, Ted and his brother, Jake Brown, constructed Elkin's first airplane, a one-passenger Heath-Parasol. In this, they followed in the footsteps of their father, who nearly thirty years earlier had built Elkin's first automobile. The one-and-a-half-story Period Cottage is sheathed with irregularly-laid cut stone. The unusual masonry includes flat arches with keystones over the casement windows and a round arch framing the small fanlight above the front door. The asymmetrical house has a gabled roof with flared eaves, including over the central door. A wing projects forward at the west end of the three-bay facade, a short ell projects from the rear, and a set-back porch extends from the east side. A ground-level terrace fronts the east two-thirds of the house (SM; CH; White).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7      Page 64      Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

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<b>Utility Building</b>	Noncontributing building
Last quarter twentieth century	

At the rear of the yard stands a small, frame, utility building with a gambrel roof and a front-facing barn-like door.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 65

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

### SIGNIFICANCE

#### Summary

Located immediately north of Elkin's historic downtown (NR 2000), the Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District is composed of 162 primary and secondary resources that together form a distinguishable entity representative of Elkin's domestic architecture between the 1890s and the mid 1950s. Within the well-preserved district covering approximately sixty acres, there remain numerous fine examples of the Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Neo-Classical Revival, Craftsman bungalow, Tudor Revival, Period Cottage, and Minimal Traditional styles.

Located at the confluence of the Yadkin River and Elkin Creek in southwestern Surry County, Elkin's early development—"old Elkin"—beginning in the mid nineteenth century, centered on Elkin Creek, where founding father Richard Gwyn and his illustrious family established the first of the community's many industrial and commercial enterprises. The growing Elkin was incorporated in 1889, and the following year the Northwestern North Carolina Railroad arrived in the town on its route between Winston and North Wilkesboro. With this latter event, activity in the town began to shift eastward from Elkin Creek to be closer to the new railroad depot. When, six months later, Richard Ransome Gwyn, a son of Richard Gwyn, sold 600 acres of his land east of Elkin Creek to the Elkin Land Company, the stage was set for new development. Civil Engineer Jacob Lott Ludlow of Winston designed a plat for the area in 1891 that laid out a system of streets and lots. The northern half of this development, along with small sections of later, contiguous developments, formed the distinctive residential area of "new Elkin" that today forms the Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District.

Because of its local significance in the area of community planning and development, the district meets Criterion A for listing in the National Register. It also meets Criterion C because the district's collection of buildings exhibiting a variety of architectural styles popular from the late nineteenth century through the mid-twentieth century is architecturally significant in Elkin. The district's period of significance spans the years from 1891, when Jacob Lott Ludlow's plat for the Elkin Land Company opened up this area of town to new development, to 1955, the year in which First Baptist Church—the last of the district's contributing historic buildings—was erected.

#### Historical Background and Community Planning and Development and Architecture Contexts

In 1840 Richard and Elizabeth Hunt Gwyn moved their large family from Jonesville, on the south side of the Yadkin River, to the north side of the river at its confluence with Elkin Creek in Surry County. There he had amassed nearly 1,700 acres—2,315 acres by 1845—that became his home tract. Eventually Gwyn's land holdings, which extended westward into Wilkes County, totaled around 6,000 acres. The Gwyn family home, a substantial two-story frame dwelling that came to be known as Cedar

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 66

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

Point (NR, 2003), is believed to be the oldest surviving house in the area, having been built ca. 1840. Richard Gwyn (1796-1881) was largely responsible for the early development of the area, and his endeavors served as a catalyst for future development. Thus, he became known as "Elkin's Founding Father" (Phillips, Cedar Point, 6).

Despite the size of his landholdings, Richard Gwyn was primarily interested in harnessing the water power of Elkin Creek. In 1848, with his son, Richard Ransome Gwyn, a brother, a brother-in-law, and a son-in-law, Gwyn incorporated the Elkin Manufacturing Company. It operated the first cotton factory in the county, a gristmill, and a general store on the east bank of Elkin Creek. Soon a post office, a blacksmith shop, and a sash sawmill were added (Phillips, Cedar Point, 6, 8-9). Around 1855 a house, now known as the Gwyn-Foard House (NR, Downtown Elkin Historic District, 2000), one of the best examples of Greek Revival style in the county, was erected just east of these enterprises for Richard Ransome Gwyn, the superintendent of the cotton mill and the first postmaster (Phillips, *Simple Treasures*, 34).

Around 1868, Richard Gwyn divided up his lands among his surviving children in the area and retired from public life. Gwyn's property ran from "the Greenwood line," well east of Elkin, westward up the Yadkin River about two miles into Wilkes County, and extended almost as far north from the river. Newton Gwyn received his father's land in Wilkes County. Youngest son Thomas Lenoir Gwyn received the homeplace and the land extending from the Wilkes County line to Elkin Creek. Richard Ransome Gwyn was given the Gwyn land between Elkin Creek and what is now Gwyn Avenue. The land from Gwyn Avenue eastward to the Greenwood line became the property of Mary Elizabeth Gwyn, who had married Alexander Chatham in 1863 (Phillips, Cedar Point, 10). This division of Richard Gwyn's land had an important impact on the future development of the area that is now the Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District.

In 1869 Richard Ransome Gwyn established a new business located a mile or two up Elkin Creek from the original Gwyn family enterprises. Known as R. R. Gwyn & Company, it consisted of a gristmill and a store. One of the commodities bartered in large quantities at the store was wool, and within several years R. R. Gwyn had purchased a wool carding machine. In 1877 Thomas Lenoir Gwyn and his brother-in-law Alexander Chatham took over R. R. Gwyn & Company, expanded the wool processing operation, and founded the Elkin Woolen Mills. Around 1893 T. L. Gwyn sold his share of Elkin Woolen Mills to Alexander Chatham and his sons, Richard Martin Chatham and Hugh Gwyn Chatham, and moved to Grayson County, Virginia. There, for the next decade, he operated a large farm and was engaged in flour milling. The Chathams reorganized the former Gwyn and Chatham wool business and renamed it the Chatham Manufacturing Company, soon moving its seat of operations to the Chatham land on the east side of town. During the twentieth century, Chatham Manufacturing became the cornerstone of Elkin's industry and economy (Phillips, Downtown Elkin Historic District, 41).

Elkin's early development paralleled that of the various Gwyn and Chatham enterprises, with most newcomers arriving to work in one of these businesses. Some of these men soon organized

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 67

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

businesses of their own to support the growing community. By the end of the 1880s, with a population of 288, Elkin boasted a post office, seven industrial concerns, four grist and saw mills, nine merchants and tradesmen, two boarding houses, two ministers, one physician, and one academy. At this time, the community was oriented toward Elkin Creek. Several houses had been erected by local leaders on the west bank of the creek, where T. L. Gwyn had sold off some of his land for that purpose. Opposite these houses, on the east side of Elkin Creek, commercial development grew along Front Street (Phillips, Downtown Elkin Historic District, 41).

With Elkin's commerce and industry expanding, with the population growing, and with the Northwestern North Carolina Railroad building a line between Winston and North Wilkesboro, incorporation of the town seemed advantageous. To this end, the town petitioned the state legislature for a charter of incorporation. It was granted on March 5, 1889. Among the six town commissioners listed in the charter were Thomas Lenoir Gwyn, Richard Ransome Gwyn, and Alexander Chatham, who served as mayor (Phillips, Downtown Elkin Historic District, 41; Phillips, Cedar Point, 11).

Soon after incorporation, on April 15, 1889, the town commissioners met to discuss the advisability of hiring a civil engineer to lay out the town into lots and streets. A committee was appointed to correspond with J. L. Ludlow to ascertain whether his services could be had, and a subscription was opened to secure funds to pay Ludlow (*Centennial History*, 14). Jacob Lott Ludlow (1862-1930), a native of Spring Lake, New Jersey, received B.A. and M.A. degrees in Civil Engineering from Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania. After moving to Winston in 1886, he established a practice as a consulting civil engineer in municipal, sanitary, and hydraulic problems that continued for more than forty years. Ludlow's consulting services were utilized by numerous towns and cities in North Carolina and elsewhere in the South, and from 1889 to 1892, he served as Winston's first city engineer (Phillips, Jacob Lott Ludlow House, 8.2-3). Although the Elkin Board of Commissioners began their effort to secure Ludlow's services in 1889, it was two years before his plan for the town was completed.

Meanwhile, in April 1890, the first trains on the new Northwestern North Carolina Railroad reached Elkin. With five trains a day, both passenger and freight, the town was poised for growth. Elkin's physical orientation soon shifted from Elkin Creek eastward to be closer to the depot that was built in 1891. Its location on the east side of South Bridge Street just south of Main Street resulted in the intersection of those two streets becoming the new center of Elkin's commerce (Phillips, Downtown Elkin Historic District, 42).

Six months after the railroad arrived in Elkin, Richard Ransome Gwyn sold approximately 600 acres of his land—located between the lands of the Elkin Manufacturing Company on the west and Alexander Chatham on the east—to A. H. Eller, Cicero Tise, Jacob Tise, and R. J. Reynolds of Forsyth County. These wealthy entrepreneurs formed the Elkin Land Company to develop their new property. The price for Gwyn's land was a hefty \$20,000. Gwyn retained approximately three acres near the eastern edge of the property, his homeplace, where around 1872 he had built a house on a hill facing south toward the river. On April 4, 1891, the Elkin Land Company formally conveyed a deed to Gwyn

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 68

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

for this land; the deed appears to have been the first with the Elkin Land Company as grantor (Deed Book 26, p. 556; Deed Book 113, p. 73; Phillips, *Simple Treasures*, 94).

For the deed to be conveyed to R. R. Gwyn, as well as for the countless deeds from the Elkin Land Company that followed, it was necessary for the land to have been platted. In April 1891, J. L. Ludlow's plan, labeled the "Map of the property of Elkin Land Co., situate at Elkin, Surry County North Carolina" was made public. Establishing a plan for Elkin's growing development, the map platted the land from the Yadkin River north to the Old State Road to Virginia (now the southwest-northeast curving path of Old Virginia Road to Church Street to North Bridge Street) and roughly from Elkin Creek to just east of present-day Gwyn Avenue. It was arranged in a grid plan of streets and lots with the exception of the curvilinear Gwyn Avenue. At the center of the plat, at what is now the town parking lot, was a square identified as "Court Square." This reflected the hope held by many that a new county would be formed from parts of eastern Wilkes and western Surry counties. That never happened (*Centennial History*, 16-17). The plat also identified R. R. Gwyn's homeplace, immediately northeast of the proposed court square, with his house facing the river. Today, Gwyn's homeplace tract encompasses 121, 131, and 151 Gwyn Avenue, all sizeable lots.

Ludlow's plan soon became a reality on the ground. Between the railroad and the river, lots provided for commerce along South Bridge Street and industry to either side. Elkin's commercial area (Downtown Elkin Historic District, NR - 2000) became concentrated between the railroad and Market Street. The area from Market Street northward to the north edge of Ludlow's map, which comprises the majority of the Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District, became Elkin's new residential area, with a few churches added to the mix.

Ludlow's plat shows that within the historic district area, lots in the blocks nearest to the north side of Market Street were only twenty-five feet wide. Moving north, most lots were fifty feet wide, though a few were 100. Some lots along Gwyn Avenue varied from the norm out of necessity due to the curves in the street. People frequently purchased more than one lot to put together a parcel of their desired width.

Deeds suggest that there was not a rush to buy the newly available land. Rather, sales from the Elkin Land Company within the historic district area, spanning the years from 1891 to the 1920s, reflected a gradual progression of growth in homebuilding in Elkin. A decade-by-decade breakdown (numbers approximate) shows that twenty-two sales were made in the 1890s, fifty-eight sales—an all-time high—were made in the decade from 1900 to 1910, eighteen more were made in the 1910s, and only two additional sales were made in the 1920s. In the early years after the land was made available for sale, some buyers purchased lots on speculation, never intending to build houses for themselves. A few lots along Gwyn Avenue were sold to Chatham Manufacturing Company or to members of the Chatham family. Some of the initial land sales resulted in the construction of houses, while others did not. Lots that were not built on right away were later sold to others who did build houses that they then occupied (Surry County deeds).



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 69

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

Although the Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District is made up largely of land that was part of the 1891 plat for the Elkin Land Company, there are also several areas around the periphery of Ludlow's plat that have been included in the district because they conform with it architecturally and/or because they have related histories. The most prominent of these areas is Hollywood Cemetery, located at the north end of the district. On April 30, 1897, Thomas Lenoir Gwyn and his wife, Amelia, sold nearly six-and-a-half acres of land to Elkin's Board of Commissioners for the town cemetery. The land was already being used as the Gwyn family cemetery, with the first known burial being that of Mary Elizabeth Gwyn Chatham in 1875. Other Gwyn burials prior to the sale included those of town patriarch Richard Gwyn (1881), his wife Elizabeth (1885), their son Richard Ransome Gwyn (1894), and his daughter Fannie Gwyn Smith (1895), who was also the first wife of industrialist Alexander Martin Smith, who was then in the process of building his house at 131 Gwyn Avenue. Later, not only were Thomas Lenoir Gwyn, Alexander Chatham, and Alexander Martin Smith buried here, but the cemetery became the final resting place for most of Elkin's leaders and their families, along with the majority of other members of the community, including, of course, many of those who lived within the Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District. The first burial after Hollywood Cemetery—as it was known from the beginning—became the town burial ground was Carrie Gwyn Smith, daughter of Thomas L. Gwyn and second wife of Alexander M. Smith. New sections were added to the cemetery in 1934, 1957, 1967, 1968, 1980, and 1989. (Only the 1897 and 1934 sections are included in the district, along with the small 1980 section because of its location.) The shady cemetery is organized with both curving and straight lanes, and a low rubble-stone wall with stone posts marking the entrances borders it along North Bridge Street. Grave markers include primarily large and small obelisks and tablet head and foot stones consistent with those typically found in cemeteries of the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries (Deed Book 50, p. 103; *Elkin Journal*, December 2, 1897).

The day after Thomas L. and Amelia Gwyn sold their six-and-a-half acres to the town commissioners for Hollywood Cemetery, they sold 300 acres of their land, located between the 1891 Elkin Land Company property and Elkin Creek, to A. L. Hendrix of Wilkes County for \$5,250 (Deed Book 32, p. 396). (This was only about half of what brother Richard Ransome Gwyn received per acre for his land sold to the Elkin Land Company six years earlier.) What Hendrix did or intended to do with the land is not known. However, in 1922 a part of the Hendrix estate was platted for a development of the Atlantic Coast Realty Company called Hendrix Heights. As with the Elkin Land Company development, most of the lots were narrow, so that buyers purchased several adjacent lots at a time (Map of Hendrix Heights). Immediately, numerous lots were sold (Surry County Deeds). Properties in the Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District that were part of the Hendrix Heights sales include 401, 409, and 411 North Bridge Street, 267, 271, 315, and 331 Church Street, and 205 and 227 West Spring Street. Eight houses in this group date from the 1920s and 1930s; one house and one apartment building were erected in 1940 and 1941.

In addition to the Elkin Land Company property platted by Jacob Lott Ludlow in 1891,

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 70

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

the company also owned land northeast of and contiguous to the original plat. The complete history of this property is not currently known. However, in 1908 the Elkin Land Company had Richard Gwyn Franklin survey and prepare a plat of the land they called the North Elkin or the North Extension of Elkin. Franklin was a civil engineer who was the grandson of Richard Gwyn and, at that time, the owner/occupant of the Gwyn home, Cedar Point. The historic district houses at 520 and 608 North Bridge Street—both built in the 1920s—were part of this North Elkin development.

Completing the Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District are two areas just east of the 1891 plat that were associated with the Chatham Manufacturing Company or the Chatham family. In 1893 Chatham Manufacturing Company abandoned its original site on Elkin Creek after building a new factory on the Chatham lands east of Gwyn Avenue on the Yadkin River bottom near the railroad. After the great flood of 1916 swamped the mill building, a new factory was erected on the north side of Main Street/NC Highway 268 uphill and a safe distance from the river (Phillips, *Simple Treasures*, 91). Also in the 1890s, Alexander Chatham's son, Hugh Gwyn Chatham, who became president and treasurer of the woolen mill in 1907, built a Queen Anne-style mansion just east of Gwyn Avenue. The house no longer stands, but a ca. 1900 photograph shows that it looked much like the nearby home of Alexander Martin Smith (*Centennial History*, 32, 147).

The first of the two areas in the historic district with Chatham associations is what is now the 100 block of East Spring Street. As early as 1896, deeds referred to this area as Chatham Park. The earliest history of this part of the district is not yet clear. What is clear, however, is that there were strong associations of Chatham Park with the Chatham Manufacturing Company, whether because the company owned some of the houses or because many of the occupants worked at Chatham. Nevertheless, it is also true that this was not a mill village such as was common with so many textile mills in North Carolina. The Chatham Manufacturing Company never owned all the houses in Chatham Park and at least some of the residents of Chatham Park always worked at places other than Chatham. Properties on the north side of the street were owned by the Elkin Land Company, although they were not part of the 1891 Ludlow plat, and were then sold to individuals, including the Brendles, the Woodruffs, and the Darnells. While these were not Chatham-owned properties, members of these three families worked for the Chatham Manufacturing Company in such positions as wool grader, assistant boss, wool dyer, blanket finisher, and weaver. Other mill positions were held by others who owned or rented houses in Chatham Park in 1900 and 1910 (Deed Book 37, p. 596; Deed Book 38, p. 293; Deed Book 53, p. 105; Deed Book 52, p. 491; Waldrep, 10 and Table 3). However, the Chatham Manufacturing Company was directly involved with the houses on the south side of Spring Street. It is not known exactly when Chatham purchased this property, possibly in 1907. Nevertheless, in 1939 the company had a plat drawn up by civil engineer I. W. Barber that was called the "Plat of Chatham Park" and showed the lots on the south side of Spring Street with their houses. The plat was drawn in preparation for the sale of these lots to individuals—mostly those who were already renting them. After the houses were sold, a few retained much of their simple "mill house" look, some were remodeled, and

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 71

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

others were demolished and replaced with new houses more to the owners' liking (Plat Book 1, p. 137).

The second of two areas with Chatham associations is located at the southeast corner of the district and includes the property of the First Baptist Church at 110 Gwyn Avenue, the First Baptist Church Parsonage at 130 Gwyn Avenue, and the houses at 143 and 147 Mill View Road. All were part of the Chatham family land. In the 1940s, after Chatham Manufacturing Company had consolidated all its operations in Elkin (in 1907 the company had expanded to Winston), the influx of workers had increased the size of the church congregation to the point that a new, larger church building was needed. In 1945 the church purchased both the Chatham homeplace at the northeast corner of Gwyn Avenue and Market/Main streets and additional land adjacent to it on Gwyn Avenue. The Chatham Foundation helped make this possible by donating \$10,000 toward the purchase price. The new parsonage was completed in 1949, the church was completed in 1955, and a chapel was built just south of the church in 1968. At the eastern edge of this property, along Mill View Road, two minimal traditional brick houses were built ca. 1950 (*Centennial History*, 153).

The Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District is the historic residential portion of what was once thought of as the "new" Elkin, that part of the town developed after its incorporation and after the arrival of the Northwestern North Carolina Railroad. This label differentiated the area from what was thereafter thought of as "old" Elkin, located around and west of Elkin Creek and associated with the earlier Gwyn family home and enterprises and the community that grew up around them in the mid-to-late nineteenth century (Waldrep, 8).

The earliest development in the approximately sixty acres that make up the district took place near the south end of Gwyn Avenue around the R. R. Gwyn homeplace and then spread northward along Gwyn Avenue and the lower portions of Bridge and Church streets and eastward along East Spring Street. Continued development occurred throughout the district, but especially in the northwestern area along West Spring Street, the 300 block of Church Street, and the 300-600 blocks of North Bridge Street.

A breakdown of approximate construction dates of the primary resources in the district shows that the heaviest period of building was between 1900 and 1915, when a third of the present buildings were erected. From pre-1900 to 1925, sixty-three percent of the buildings were constructed, and by World War II, eighty-eight percent of the buildings had taken their places in the district. These periods of growth correspond generally with Elkin's population growth as reported in census records. Between 1900 and 1910, the town's population more than quadrupled, from 288 to 1,200. The population doubled between 1910 and 1930, when it reached 2,456. Thereafter it grew at a much slower pace; today's population is around 4,000 (*Centennial History*, 10, 30, 40, 64, and 79).

One characteristic of the district, historically, was that there were many family connections and interconnections among the residents. Perhaps the best example of this was the Gwyn family, who, starting with Richard Ransome Gwyn and Thomas Lenoir Gwyn, became intertwined by marriage with the Chatham, Smith, Horton, Poindexter, Bivins, and Lillard families, all of whom lived in the district,

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 72

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

mostly in the southeast section of it. Another example is the Graham family, whose members lived in at least four houses in the 300 block of Gwyn Avenue (west side) and, backing up to it, the 400 block of North Bridge Street (southeast side).

Another characteristic of the district during the late nineteenth and first half of the twentieth century was that its residents represented many walks of life, a wide spectrum of occupations that made Elkin's life and economy hum. The district was home to at least ten industrialists—owners or executives of local industries—and even more factory workers, especially at the Chatham Manufacturing Company. The number of merchants, who sold everything from jewelry to groceries to automobiles, was even greater. Among those employed in professional fields were two physicians, one dentist, a druggist, two attorneys, at least five educators, and three ministers. There were also bankers, undertakers, real estate developers and salesmen, oil distributors, publisher and editors of *The Elkin Tribune*, and such diverse additional occupations as horse trader, mail carrier, insurance agent, auto mechanic, dry cleaner, restaurateur, landscaper, road contractor, and others. Also living in the district were many with civic roles: two mayors, one town manager, two fire chiefs, one county commissioner, and one county tax collector.

The architecture of the Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District encompasses a broad range of architectural styles popular from the 1890s through the 1950s and, in size and stylistic development, mirrors the socio-economic diversity of the district's residents, which, in turn, is representative of historic Elkin as a whole. Houses in the district range from modest one-story dwellings, such as the West House at 155 East Spring Street and the Morgan Hanks House at 152 Gwyn Avenue, to houses of substantial size and sophistication, such as the Gwyn-Chatham-Gwyn House, the Alexander Martin Smith House, and the Richard Gwyn Smith House, all located in a row on the west side of the 100 block of Gwyn Avenue. Architectural styles exhibited in the district's buildings include the Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Neo-Classical Revival, Craftsman bungalow, Tudor Revival, Period Cottage, and Minimal Traditional. The most popular of these were the Queen Anne style in the early years of the district and, a little later, the Craftsman bungalow.

By far the best example of the Queen Anne style in the district, and one of the two most outstanding examples in Surry County, is the 1893-1897 Alexander Martin Smith House at 131 Gwyn Ave. In the 1890s Smith established the Elkin Shoe Company, one of the town's most important industries for many years. His two-and-a-half-story Victorian mansion reflected his affluence. Designed by popular Knoxville mail-order architect George Franklin Barber, it was very similar to the nearby house of Hugh Gwyn Chatham, which no longer stands. With its asymmetrical configuration and complexity of surface treatment and detail, the house is a classic expression of the style. Among its wealth of features are a steep hipped and gabled roof with bracketed eaves, decorative brick chimneys, a combination of novelty and decorative wood-shingle siding, decorative bargeboards and friezes, a curving wraparound front porch with turned and sawnwork ornamentation, a recessed second-story porch, a tower, a turret, and a decorative half-timbered front gable filled with *objets trouves*. Variety is

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 73

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

added to the one-over-one-sash windows by the occasional use of curved glass, diamond-paned glass, and stained glass.

Other one- and two-story Queen Anne-style houses in the district are much simpler. Nevertheless, they reflect the fanciful spirit of the style. Among the best two-story examples are the ca. 1905 John B. and Angie Smith Horton House at 140 Gwyn Avenue, the ca. 1910 Dr. Hugh Clay Salmons House at 129 Church Street, and the ca. 1910 George E. and Janie B. Royall House at 214 Church Street. Horton was president of the Elkin Realty and Insurance Company and also established the Elkin Telephone Company. Salmons was one of Elkin's earliest physicians, and in 1924 was co-founder of Elkin's first hospital. Royall operated a drugstore in downtown Elkin. With their one-story Tuscan porches, the Salmons and Royall houses also reflect a hint of the Colonial Revival style. The ca. 1893 one-story Penn House at 146 Gwyn Avenue has front and side wings with polygonal ends and a wraparound porch with turned posts and decorative sawnwork brackets. Among the other one-story examples of the Queen Anne style having an asymmetrical form and decorative detailing are the ca. 1900 Charles W. Moseley House at 212 Gwyn Avenue, the ca. 1905 R. P. Crater House at 245 Gwyn Avenue, and the ca. 1910 Baptist Pastorium at 274 Church Street. Moseley was a physician, and Crater was a merchant. The ca. 1910 Mason Lillard House at 105 Gwyn Avenue made use of an asymmetrical Queen Anne-style form, while incorporating a hint of the Colonial Revival style in its wraparound porch with Tuscan colonettes. When built, the Lillard House was one of only six brick houses in Elkin. Mason Lillard was an executive with the nearby Chatham Manufacturing Company and a civic leader (*Elkin Tribune*, October 4, 1934).

Reflecting the symmetrical form and classical detailing reminiscent of the houses of America's colonial period, the Colonial Revival style rebelled against the decorative excesses of the Queen Anne style. Representatives of the style in the district are primarily two-story frame or brick houses of the 1920s. With its symmetrical five-bay facade, side-gable roof with a modillioned cornice, gable-end brick chimneys flanked by lunette windows, and center-bay classical entrance porch, the 1922 Dan Chatham House at 113 Gwyn Avenue is an excellent two-story frame example of the style. Among other good examples are the ca. 1923 Smith-Neaves House at 401 North Bridge Street, the ca. 1930 James R. Poindexter House at 409 North Bridge Street, the ca. 1920 W. Marion Allen House at 138 Church Street, and the ca. 1915 Willard House at 312 Gwyn Avenue. The Allen and Willard houses express the Dutch variation of the style with steep gambrel roofs. The Beeson House at 205 West Spring Street and the First Baptist Church Parsonage at 130 Gwyn Avenue are late examples of the style, having been built in 1941 and 1949, respectively. The owners of these houses represented a wide variety of occupations. Chatham was a landscaper. Clement Smith, brother of Alexander Martin Smith, was an employee of his brother's Elkin Shoe Company. His successor at the house, William Avery Neaves, was an executive with Chatham Manufacturing Company. Next-door neighbor J. R. Poindexter owned Surry Hardware and was a mayor of Elkin. Allen was an attorney, and Willard's occupation is not known. Beeson was an executive with the Bank of Elkin.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 74

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

The Neo-Classical Revival style, which was related to the Colonial Revival but was distinguished by the exaggerated manner in which it used details and sometimes form from the mid-nineteenth-century classical revival styles, was popular in North Carolina during the first decade and a half of the twentieth century. With a two-story classical portico across all or part of the facade as a primary feature of the style, it was used more often for public buildings and churches than for houses. Although there are only three buildings that reflect the influence of the style in the district, they leave their imprint on its architectural character because of their dramatic porticos. The most prominent domestic example is the Gwyn-Chatham-Gwyn House at 121 Gwyn Avenue. This house is actually the oldest in the district, beginning life as the traditional two-story home built by industrialist and civic leader Richard Ransome Gwyn ca. 1872. In 1911 Gwyn's daughter, Grace, and her husband, Alexander Chatham Jr., turned the house to face Gwyn Avenue and modernized it by adding such classical features as the one-story wraparound Doric porch and the center-bay, two-level porch with heroic Doric columns. These features not only gave the house a stylish Neo-Classical Revival appearance but also made it appear even larger than it was. Within the next couple of years, Thomas Lenoir Gwyn—R. R.'s brother and also a leading industrialist and civic leader who became known as Elkin's "Grand Old Man"—purchased the house, and his family resided there for many years. The 1914 Simmons-Whitaker House at 246 Church Street also exhibits a one-story classical porch across the facade combined with a slightly projecting two-story classical central portico. Banker Martin Simmons was followed in ownership of the house by grocer, automobile dealer, and fire chief William W. Whitaker. While the Neo-Classical Revival features of these houses date from the early twentieth century, the other district example of the style, the First Baptist Church at 110 Gwyn Avenue, was built much later, in 1955 with a similar chapel added in 1968. Both the church and the chapel are highlighted by dramatic pedimented porticoes with heroic Tuscan columns and a full classical entablature.

Departing from the fussiness of the Queen Anne style and the classicism of the Colonial Revival and Neo-Classical Revival styles, the Craftsman style, especially in its most common form, the bungalow, became highly popular in North Carolina during the 1910s and 1920s. The Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District was certainly no exception, and many fine examples of the style were erected during those years. Although varying in appearance and level of design sophistication, these houses typically had one- or one-and-a-half stories with an asymmetrical configuration and a relatively informal plan, low sweeping lines, broad gables, widely overhanging braced eaves, offset porches with heavy porch posts, and a variety of materials, frequently those that provided a rustic appearance. The district's bungalows range from the small and simple to the larger and more complex. Three of the larger and more distinctive bungalows are among the best in Elkin: the red and yellow brick John A. Sommers House at 305 North Bridge Street, the stone and stuccoed L. C. Couch House at 608 North Bridge Street, and the wood and stucco Herbert P. Graham House at 371 Gwyn Avenue. All were built ca. 1920. Owners of these houses included the owner of a group of five-and-ten-cent stores (Sommers), a dentist (Couch), and a furniture company owner and oil distributor (Graham). Excellent smaller bungalows in

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 75

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

the district include the John and Cora Lee Ipock House at 411 North Bridge Street and the W. J. Snow House at 376 Gwyn Avenue. The Ipock house has multiple front and side low gables with widely overhanging eaves supported by Craftsman brackets and a wraparound engaged porch with tapered wood posts set on river rock plinths. John Ipock was manager of the Elkin and Allegheny Railroad. The Snow house is distinguished by its broad front-gable roof and expansive wraparound engaged porch. Snow was the county tax collector. Among other good examples in the district's fine collection of bungalows are the ca. 1920 Worth Graham House at 416 North Bridge Street with its river rock chimneys, porch posts and porch skirt; the ca. 1925 Claude and Daisy McNeill House at 317 North Bridge Street with its weatherboarded first story and wood-shingled upper half story; the 1921 Lonnie and Disa Walker House at 306 Church Street with its broad cross-gable roof with overhanging braced eaves; the ca. 1925 one-and-a-half-story brick Hayes-Triplette House at 331 Church Street with its front and rear shed dormers and front porch and side porte-cochere supported by heavy paneled wood posts; the houses at 154, 354, 360, 372, and 327 Gwyn Avenue, and the houses at 123 and 156 East Spring Street.

Although few examples of the Tudor Revival style, which was loosely based on a variety of late Medieval English prototypes, are found in Elkin, the district contains an excellent example in the ca. 1918 Richard Gwyn and Margaret Ray Harvison Smith House at 151 Gwyn Avenue. Richard Gwyn Smith, the son of industrialist A. M. Smith, was an industrialist in his own right as the owner of the profitable Elkin Tanning Company. Standing in a lush, park-like setting back from the street, the Smith House is a two-story, asymmetrical dwelling with a stuccoed exterior, false half-timbering and bargeboards decorating the steeply pitched roof gables, and a picturesque granite chimney on the front. A first-story pent roof that is pierced by the chimney carries across the facade between the projecting end wings and incorporates a bracketed hood over the off-center entrance.

Related to the Tudor Revival style, but smaller in scale, is the style known as the Period Cottage, which was popular from the late 1920s to the early 1940s and typically features stone, brick, or wood siding, a steep gabled roof with an off-center front gable, a hooded or sheltered entrance, and a picturesque front chimney. Several simple examples of the style are found in the district. The ca. 1928 Park-Reece House at 520 North Bridge Street and the 1939 Ted and Avis Brown House at 227 West Spring Street are two fanciful stone examples. Two brick examples include the ca. 1942 W. M. Wall House at 422 North Bridge Street and ca. 1935 Harvey F. and Lillian E. Laffoon House at 320 Church Street. The 1936 Chatham-Holcomb House at 329 North Bridge Street and the ca. 1945 Causey House at 303 Gwyn Avenue are both frame examples. Owners who lived in these houses were represented by a wholesale grocer (Reece), a fire chief (Brown), a jeweler (Wall), a newspaper publisher (Laffoon), and a developer and builder (Chatham).

Few houses were built in the district during the 1940s and 1950s. Most of these reflected the Minimal Traditional style: very plain one- or one-a-half-story dwellings with a side-gable roof and often a small front gable. These houses were stylistically stripped down, though sometimes a hint of the

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 76

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

Colonial Revival could be seen. Many included a front entrance stoop and/or a side porch. Brick examples in the district include the ca. 1945 Manley Hodges House and the ca. 1940 Tyson House at 320 and 324 North Bridge Street, respectively; the Priscilla and Evelyn Howard House and the George Isenhour House, both built ca. 1950 at 143 and 147 Mill View Road, respectively; and the ca. 1936 Robert L. Church House at 246 Gwyn Avenue. The 1946 Bert and Iva Lee Phillips House at 150 East Spring Street is a less typical stone example. Owners of these houses ranged from workers at Chatham Manufacturing Company (Bert Phillips and Priscilla Howard) to a jeweler and one-time mayor of Elkin (Isenhour).

In addition to the various architectural styles represented in the district, vernacular house forms common during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries are exhibited in simple district houses that are devoid of style. During the first decade of the twentieth century, Chatham Manufacturing Company built some houses for its workers along East Spring Street. These small, one-story frame dwellings have either a side-gable or a hipped roof, interior chimneys (removed in some cases), a plain front porch, and a rear ell. Examples include the houses at 128, 144, and 155 East Spring Street. The similar, but larger, Mickle House at 161 East Spring Street may or may not have been built by Chatham Manufacturing Company. Akin to many farmhouses built in the county during the last quarter of the nineteenth century and the early twentieth century, the Mickle house is a two-story frame structure with a side-gable roof, a central chimney, a three-bay facade with a central entrance, a one-story, hip-roofed front porch, and a central, one-story rear ell. Another example of this same basic house type is the Blanche Rogers House at 330 North Bridge Street. The one-story frame house has a side-gable roof, a pair of interior chimneys, a three-bay facade, and a one-story rear ell. Sanborn maps show that originally the house had a porch across the facade and porches along either side of the ell. A related house type is seen in two houses on Gwyn Avenue. The distinguishing feature of the Lacy J. Bray House at 219 Gwyn Avenue and the James and Iola Lillard House at 231 Gwyn Avenue is the triple-A, or three-gable, roof that each exhibits. Both are frame houses. The Bray house is two stories with a pair of interior chimneys, a round-arched vent in its gable ends, a three-bay facade, a wraparound porch, and a two-story rear ell. The Lillard house is one story, with interior chimneys, a diamond vent in each gable end, a three-bay facade, and a partial front porch.

Because of the district's topography, many houses have no outbuildings. However, garages and sheds comprise most of the outbuildings that do exist in the district. Approximately twenty-five survive from the district's period of significance, with around one quarter of those dating from ca. 1930 or earlier. These outbuildings—mostly garages—tend to be well preserved and good representatives of their periods. The oldest outbuilding in the district is also one of the largest. It is the one-and-a-half story frame garage/apartment associated with the Mason and Marion Lillard House at 105 Gwyn Ave. Though now covered with vinyl siding, the ca. 1910 building still conveys a strong sense of its original appearance, when it provided housing for a servant with space below for a vehicle. The building has a steep hipped roof with intersecting cross gables. Much smaller in scale is the ca. 1926 one-story frame



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 77

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

garage associated with the John and Cora Ipock House at 411 North Bridge Street. Fairly typical for the 1920s, the single-bay garage has weatherboard siding and a gable-front roof with exposed rafter ends. Adjacent to the Ipock house at 409 North Bridge Street, the James R. Poindexter House retains an excellent one-story brick garage at the rear of the driveway that appears to be contemporaneous with the ca. 1930 house. The single-bay garage has a front-facing gable roof and a bracketed front overhang that shelters the paneled garage doors with their row of four-light windows across the top. Another good example of a brick garage is the one associated with the Carl Myers House at 211 Gwyn Avenue. Built ca. 1935, the one-story, single-bay garage has a double-leaf vehicular door and a front-gable roof with vertical stick work echoing that of the gables of the Myers house. In addition to frame and brick garages, the district also contains two stone garages. The outstanding ca. 1930 one-story garage associated with the Herbert P. Graham House, located at 371 Gwyn Avenue, has rubble stone walls with larger cut stone blocks accenting each corner. A low hipped roof covers the whole. Behind the ca. 1950 rubble stone Herman and Lorene Royall House at 149 East Spring Street is a contemporaneous rubble stone garage. Its low hipped roof encompasses not only the single garage bay, but also an open shed on the east side.

While single-family houses predominated in the Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District, four apartment buildings provided another housing choice for residents. All of the apartment buildings are simple two- or three-story brick structures. The three that are located on the west side of North Bridge Street—the Mitchell Apartments at 227, the Blackburn Apartments at 331-337, and the Handy Apartments at 339—all hint of the Colonial Revival stylistically. By contrast, the Lewis Apartments at 315 Church Street has a stripped-down simplicity that somewhat reflects mid-twentieth-century modernism. Except for the Mitchell Apartments, which were built in 1935, the other apartment buildings were erected in the 1940s, taking advantage of the influx of Chatham Manufacturing Company workers from Winston-Salem in 1940.

In addition to the frame, brick, and stone buildings that contribute architecturally to the district, stonework in the form of retaining walls, steps, and other landscape features makes an indelible mark on the physical character of the district. Although not confined to any one area of the district, these features are perhaps most noticeable at the north end of the district. The north side of the 400 block of North Bridge Street provides the best illustration of this stone work. The entire North Bridge Street frontage of Hollywood Cemetery is bordered by a low rubble stone wall with a rusticated granite cap. Each of the four entrances to the cemetery is flanked by two slightly larger stone posts treated in the same manner as the wall. Just southwest of the cemetery, neat rubble stone retaining walls border the front yards of 409 and 411 North Bridge Street and continue up the driveway between the two houses. Stone steps rise to the houses at 401 and 411 North Bridge Street. On the south side of the 400 block, stone retaining walls border the front and the two sides of 430 North Bridge Street and the two sides of 422 North Bridge Street. Stone steps curve from the street to the front walk of 416 North Bridge Street. Some of the most delightful stonework in the district is found around the corner from the 400 block of North Bridge Street at 372 and 376 Gwyn Avenue. The front yards of these two bungalows are bordered by low retaining

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 8 Page 78

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

walls faced with river rocks. River rocks laid in a herringbone pattern also face step risers and circular planters on either side of the front walk steps. The same herringbone pattern in river rock is used to great effect at the south end of the street in the much wider and more numerous porch step risers at the Gwyn-Chatham-Gwyn House at 121 Gwyn Avenue. In the district, stonework was often used in the landscape not only in conjunction with the showier houses or on the more prestigious streets, but also with the humbler dwellings. This is best illustrated on East Spring Street, where for years many of the houses were built and/or occupied by workers at the nearby Chatham Manufacturing Company. There, on the north side of the 100 block, all the houses east of Ridge Street, except for 161 East Spring Street, have front yards bordered by low, rubble stone retaining walls. The wall in front of 149 East Spring Street is most pronounced, probably because the house, itself, is constructed of rubble stone.

The 162 primary and secondary resources of the Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District form a distinguishable entity that is representative of Elkin's domestic architecture between the 1890s and the mid 1950s. Within the well-preserved district remain numerous fine examples of the Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Neo-Classical Revival, Craftsman bungalow, Tudor Revival, Period Cottage, and Minimal Traditional styles. The district is one of two such areas, the other being located west of Elkin Creek. While both include mostly frame houses in a variety of styles popular during those years, and while both have significant associations with the Gwyn family, the two areas developed separately, representing two different aspects of Elkin's history. West of Elkin Creek, "old Elkin" was centered initially on Cedar Point, the home of Elkin's founding father, Richard Gwyn, and around the Gwyn enterprises along Elkin Creek. This land began to open up to others in the early 1880s, when Thomas Lenoir Gwyn, son of Richard Gwyn and then-owner of Cedar Point, sold several parcels on the west bank of Elkin Creek near its confluence with the Yadkin River to prominent residents of the town. In 1895 more of the Gwyn land—along West Main Street, Surry Avenue, Vine Street, Franklin Street, and Cedar Street—was opened to residential development by Richard Gwyn Franklin, Richard Gwyn's grandson and owner at that time of Cedar Point and the surrounding acreage. The area developed by Franklin, a civil engineer, became known as Franklin Heights (Phillips, Cedar Point, 13-14). By contrast, the Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District was part of "new Elkin" that developed after the town's incorporation in 1889 and after the arrival of the Northwestern North Carolina Railroad in 1890 that shifted the center of town eastward to be closer to the railroad depot. The area north of Elkin's downtown opened for residential development after Richard Ransome Gwyn, another son of founding father Richard Gwyn, sold approximately 600 acres of his land to the Elkin Land Company, who developed it according an 1891 plan drawn by civil engineer Jacob Lott Ludlow. It became the home not only of many of Elkin's elite, but also of many of Elkin's everyday citizens.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 9 Page 79

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

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United States Department of the Interior  
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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 9 Page 80

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number    9       Page   81

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

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### Interviews

Interviews by Laura A. W. Phillips with present or former residents of the Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District. Interview notes located in nomination working file at State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, North Carolina:

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Gregory, Marjorie - May 26, 2006  
Hughes, Joanne - June 2, 2006  
Key, Una Norman - June 1, 2006  
Laffoon, Grace - May 12 and 15, June 1, 2006  
Mayberry, Matthew - June 2 and 12, 2006  
Neaves, Margaret - June 13, July 11, 2006  
Norman, Mary - May 30, 2006  
Phillips, Iva Lee - May 25 and 26, 2006  
Salmons, Hugh - May 31, 2006  
Smith, Claire - May 4 and 18, 2006  
Smith, Richard Gwyn Jr. - May 5, 10, 15, 29, and 30, June 12, 13, and 14, July 20, 2006  
Stuart, Bonnie and Hal - May 31 and June 2, 2006  
Triplette, Ralph - June 13, 2006  
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White, Ronny and Rexanna - January 20, 2006

Interviews by Richard Gwyn Smith Jr.:  
Mayberry, Louise Chatham, June 12, 2006  
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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number 10 Page 82

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

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### GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

#### UTM References, cont'd.

5. 17 513210 4011090

6. 17 513100 4011290

#### Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District is shown by the heavy black line on the accompanying district map, drawn to a scale of 1" = 200'.

#### Boundary Justification

The boundary of the Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District is drawn to encompass the historically and visually cohesive collection of 124 buildings and one site that reflects the core of Elkin's residential development east of Elkin Creek dating between 1891 and 1955 and associated primarily with the real estate venture, beginning in 1891, of the Elkin Land Company.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Number   Photos   Page 83

Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District  
Surry County, North Carolina

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### PHOTOGRAPHS

The following information for #1-5 applies to all nomination photographs, except as noted:

- 1) Gwyn Avenue-Bridge Street Historic District
- 2) Elkin, Surry County, North Carolina
- 3) Laura A. W. Phillips
- 4) A and E were photographed in October 2005. All others were photographed in January 2006.
- 5) Negatives: North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office
- 6-7) A: First Baptist Church and Parsonage, 110 and 130 Gwyn Ave., view to NE  
B: Gwyn-Chatham-Gwyn House, 121 Gwyn Ave., view to W  
C: Alexander Martin Smith House, 131 Gwyn Ave., view to NW  
D: Richard Gwyn and Margaret Ray Harvison Smith House, 151 Gwyn Ave., view to NE  
E: Charles W. Moseley House, 212 Gwyn Ave., view to NE  
F: Streetscape, 327-331 Gwyn Ave., view to N  
G: Herbert P. Graham House, 371 Gwyn Ave., view to W  
H: L. C. Couch House, 608 N. Bridge St., view to E  
I: Hollywood Cemetery, 451 N. Bridge St., view to W  
J: Streetscape, 411-401 N. Bridge St., view to W  
K: Schonhofen Optometry Building (noncontributing), 346 N. Bridge St., view to NE  
L: Streetscape, 324-300 N. Bridge St., view to SE  
M: Streetscape, 311-329 N. Bridge St., view to NW  
N: Streetscape, 315-331 Church St., view to NE  
O: Streetscape, 214-138 Church St., view to SE  
P: Streetscape, 243-261 N. Bridge St., view to NW  
Q: Streetscape, Both sides, 100 block E. Spring St., view to E  
R: Ted and Avis Brown House, 227 W. Spring St., view to S